

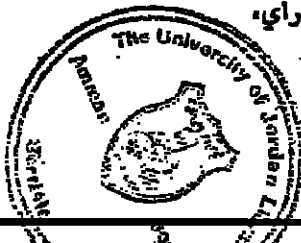
Belfast police raid Protestant base

BELFAST (AP) — Police raided the headquarters of the main Protestant paramilitary organisation early Sunday, while Protestants torched or stoned 22 homes of police and of Roman Catholics, authorities said. Police seized tapes and documents in the pre-dawn swoop on the Belfast office of the Ulster Defence Association, suspected of helping organise an unprecedented wave of anti-police violence by Protestants protesting the Anglo-Irish accord of Nov. 15. It gives the Catholic Republic of Ireland a consultative say in Northern Ireland. The British government's Northern Ireland Secretary Tom King declared Britain will not yield to terrorism by Protestants demanding perpetual British rule or by Catholics seeking its end.

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Regent marks holy occasion

AQABA (Petra) — His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan, the Regent, on Sunday patronised a religious ceremony held in Aqaba to mark Al Isra' Wal Miraj Day. The ceremony, in which verses of the Holy Quran were recited and several speakers spoke about the meaning of the occasion, was held at Haj Daoud Sulaiman Mosque after Al Aqr prayers. Attending the ceremony with the Regent were senior government and military officials in Aqaba. (See story on page 3).

Abdul Meguid briefs Sudanese counterpart on Ethiopia talks

KHARTOUM (R) — Egyptian Foreign Minister Esmat Abdul Meguid stopped over at Khartoum airport on Sunday to brief Sudanese Foreign Minister Ibrahim Taha Ayoub on his talks in Addis Ababa with President Mengistu Haile Mariam. Egyptian officials said Mr. Abdul Meguid was in the Ethiopian capital in an attempt to mediate between Khartoum and the Ethiopian-backed rebels of the Sudan People's Liberation Army (SPLA). The Egyptian minister told reporters he had given Mr. Mengistu a message from President Hosni Mubarak but had not met SPLA leader John Garang (Egypt sends arms to Sudan, page 2).

Aden refinery to process Soviet oil

BAHRAIN (AP) — The Soviet Union and South Yemen signed an agreement by which 60,000 tons of crude oil will be processed at Aden's refinery, according to a report on Sunday by Aden Radio. The processed crude oil will be partially used by Soviet vessels calling at Aden harbour, according to the radio broadcast. The covering agreement was signed by the deputy minister of power and minerals in South Yemen and the commercial councillor of the Soviet embassy.

Tunisian union leader jailed for 2 years

TUNIS (R) — Veteran Tunisian trade union leader Habib Achour was sentenced to two years imprisonment on Sunday for mismanagement of funds of a union-owned insurance company. Mr. Achour, the 73-year-old secretary-general of the 350,000-strong General Union of Tunisian Workers (UGTT), was in court for the hearing.

Top-level Romanian team in Israel

TEL AVIV (AP) — A top-ranking Romanian Communist Party delegation arrived here on Sunday to attend the socialist Labour Party conference which opens later this week. The three-man delegation is headed by Ion Stolan, an alternate member of the Romanian Politburo, secretary of the party's central committee and chairman of the parliamentary foreign affairs committee.

Jordan and Indonesia call for total Israeli pullout and Gulf peace

AMMAN (J.T.) — Jordan and Indonesia said on Sunday no peace was achievable in the Middle East without complete Israeli withdrawal from the Arab territories occupied since 1967, including Jerusalem, and the restoration of the legitimate rights of the Palestinian people.

In a joint communique issued in Amman and Jakarta on the conclusion of a six-day visit to Indonesia by Their Majesties King Hussein and Queen Noor, Jordan and Indonesia also called for an early peaceful settlement of the 5 1/2-year-old Iran-Iraq war. The communique praised a Jordan-Indonesia agreement on trade and economic cooperation. The accord was signed during the

King's visit to Indonesia.

The King also extended an invitation to President Suharto of Indonesia to visit Jordan and the date of the visit was to be fixed later, the communique said.

Following is the full text of the communique:

At the invitation of His Excellency President Suharto, president of the Republic of Indonesia, His Majesty King Hussein

I of the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan paid a state visit to Indonesia from Tuesday, April 1 to Sunday, April 6, 1986. His Majesty King Hussein I was accompanied by Her Majesty Queen Noor Al Hussein. During his stay in Indonesia His Majesty King Hussein I laid a wreath at the Kalibata National Heroes Cemetery, Jakarta and visited Bandung, Bali and the Nusantara Aircraft Industry and places of cultural interest.

His Majesty King Hussein I and his accompanying delegation were accorded a warm and cordial welcome by the government and the people of Indonesia reflecting their feelings of Islamic brotherhood and profound friendship for the government and the people

(Continued on page 5)

Snipings mar new Beirut truce; Lebanese stage peace marathon

BEIRUT (Agencies) — Sniper fire and grenade blasts marred a new truce at Beirut's embattled Palestinian camps as 400 war-weary citizens staged a "peace marathon" on Sunday jog, urging an end to civil strife.

Residents said sporadic explosions and shooting were heard after the truce was agreed overnight at meetings of Palestinian officials and leaders of the Shi'ite Amal militia.

Militia and Palestinian sources quoted by Reuters say at least 26 people have been killed in 10 days of intermittent battles around Sabra and Shatila 'camps,' while unconfirmed radio reports put the death toll as high as 46 with about 130 wounded.

The latest pact followed an appeal for peace by Sunni and Shi'ite leaders in the city.

"This fighting is against religion and comforts Israel," Sunni religious leader Sheikh Hassan Khalid and senior Shi'ite cleric Mohammad Mehdi Shamseddin said Saturday night.

Weinberger arrives in Philippines

MANILA (R) — U.S. Defence Secretary Caspar Weinberger arrived in Manila on Sunday and is expected to discuss military aid to the Philippines with President Corason Aquino.

The visit, the first by a senior member of the Reagan administration since a civilian-backed revolt ended the 20-year rule of Ferdinand Marcos in February, comes amid growing opposition to U.S. military bases in the country.

Opposition leaders and anti-bases groups have been demanding the dismantling of the bases, which they said served as a magnet for nuclear activity.

Clark air force base and Subic Bay naval base are the largest U.S. military installations overseas.

About 50 people demonstrated outside Manila airport waving placards which read "Weinberger Go Home" and "Stop U.S. Intervention in the Philippines."

Mr. Weinberger arrived a few days after 22,000 Filipino workers ended a 12-day strike blockade at the bases. The strikers have agreed to allow negotiators to settle their demands for wage rises and other benefits.

During his visit, Mr. Weinberger was also expected to meet Defence Minister Juan Ponce Enrile and military chief General Fidel Ramos. They launched the revolt that toppled Marcos.

They are likely to discuss military aid, including spare parts and basic military equipment, which the Philippines needs to fight Communist rebels, military sources said.

At least 400 Lebanese men and women jogged the 43 kilometres to Beirut from the southern city of Sidon in the "peace marathon" organised by a football club.

Trucks packed with armed militiamen escorted them along the coast road, which runs north from Sidon through one of the capital's mainly Shi'ite southern suburbs.

One of the organisers, army Captain Ahmad Addam, said members of Lebanon's tiny foreign community were asked at the last minute not to participate for security reasons.

"We could not ensure their safety 100 per cent," he said, adding that the run was designed to highlight growing public demands for an end to 11 years of civil war in Lebanon.

A handful of foreigners living in Beirut, including a Briton, an American, a Dutchman and a Frenchman, had applied to run in the marathon, Safa Sports Club officials said.

Meanwhile in Baghdad, Pal-

Soviet silos 'vulnerable to strike by American missiles'

WASHINGTON (R) — A surge in production of accurate U.S. intercontinental ballistic missiles (ICBMs) is making the Soviet nuclear arsenal vulnerable to a first strike, increasing war dangers, according to a report released on Sunday.

The report by the Liberal Union of Concerned Scientists, citing unclassified Defence Department data, said Pentagon plans called for a dramatic increase in the number of U.S. nuclear "hard target" warheads (accurate enough to hit Soviet missile silos) from about 1,000 today to 6,000 in the 1990s.

"In theory... the United States will thus have the capability to destroy virtually all 1400 Soviet ICBM silos as well as hundreds of hardened command posts, while still holding in reserve a substantial force of ballistic missiles,"

(Continued on page 5)

American insistence on military option clouds Contadora talks

PANAMA CITY (R) — Central American peace talks among 13 Latin American foreign ministers were drawing to a close on Sunday bogged down by military matters and clouded by a growing frustration with U.S. policy in the region.

Latin American diplomats involved in the talks said disagreement among ideologically-divided Central American states continued to hamper efforts by the four-nation Contadora group to implement an ambitious peace plan.

"But the fundamental problem is that the United States is insisting on military solutions to the conflict in Central America," said one of the diplomats attending the talks.

"It's frustrating... with the support of the U.S., we know the plan

estine Liberation Organisation (PLO) Chairman Yasser Arafat and his top aides began meeting overnight Sunday in Baghdad, basically to discuss the situation of Palestinian refugee camps in Lebanon, Gulf wire services reported.

The PLO Executive Committee was also to discuss the latest developments in the Middle East and the need for an emergency Arab summit conference to unify Arab ranks, according to the reports.

Mr. Arafat arrived in Baghdad late last week after a tour of several Arab Gulf capitals and conferences with their leaders on the Middle East peace process after Jordan suspended political coordination with the PLO leadership.

This was the second meeting for the PLO Executive Committee in Baghdad since the Oct. 1 Israeli raid on the organisation's headquarters in Tunisia.

The Gulf agencies did not say if all members of the committee were present in Baghdad.

The trend did not mean Washington was planning a first strike, but the new weapons posed serious dangers because the Kremlin might fear such an attack and launch its missiles in a preemptive strike during a crisis, the report said.

Since two-thirds of Soviet nuclear intercontinental nuclear weapons were land-based, compared with about one-fifth for the United States, the Kremlin faced far greater first strike vulnerabilities than did the United States. The United States relies more heavily on nuclear bombers and submarines.

The report said the U.S. Trident II submarine-launched ballistic missile (SLBM), due to be flight-tested next year, would add 4000 "hard target" warheads to the

report said.

could be put into effect," another official said.

The Contadora group of Mexico, Panama, Venezuela and Colombia and their Latin American "support group" — Uruguay, Argentina, Peru, and Brazil — were meeting separately in a Panama City hotel with the five Central American countries.

Their meeting has been spotlighted by President Reagan's plans to give \$100 million in military aid this year to rebels fighting Nicaragua's Sandinist government.

The Contadora group is opposed to external support for rebel forces in Central America and is trying to implement a peace treaty stressing demilitarisation of the volatile zone where three countries are fighting insurgencies.

(Continued on page 5)

Bush: U.S. is committed to free flow of Gulf oil

RIYADH (Agencies) — U.S. Vice-President George Bush said on Sunday Washington was committed to safeguarding the freedom of navigation in international waters and the free flow of oil through the Gulf.

Mr. Bush, on a three-day visit to Saudi Arabia, was speaking after a Saudi tanker was attacked in the Gulf on Saturday, in an area where Iran has been blamed for previous raids in its tankers war with Iraq (See page 2).

"I'll repeat it here — the United States is committed to maintaining the free flow of oil through the Gulf... after this past month no one should doubt the importance we attach to freedom of navigation in international waters," Mr. Bush told the American businessmen's group in Riyadh.

Mr. Bush also predicted that the administration would win passage of a \$354 million arms sales to Saudi Arabia, denying reports that he had urged U.S. support for oil prices.

He hinted that the recent military clash between Libya and the U.S. in the Gulf of Sirte was a message for the Iranians.

Mr. Bush said the thrust of talks with the Saudis, and with the three other Arab states he would visit in the region, would focus on political and security matters.

Mr. Bush's statements were seen a further message of support for Saudi Arabia and its Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC) allies Bahrain, Oman, Kuwait, Qatar and the United Arab Emirates, which are concerned that the Iran-Iraq war might spill over.

In his address on Sunday, Mr. Bush warned of a widening of the Gulf war and of what he said were Iranian attempts to block the Strait of Hormuz at the mouth of the Gulf — lifeline to most of the Gulf states' exports.

"The great danger now is that it will spread beyond its current boundaries... that there might be an attempt to close the Strait of Hormuz or that Iran might break through Iraqi lines and attack neighbouring countries, something it has threatened to do," he said.

Mr. Bush said the topic of international terrorism would be part of the talks with the leaders in the region. He was scheduled to have two meetings with King Fahd late Sunday and Monday before he proceeds to Bahrain, then Oman and North Yemen.

He pointed out that terrorism was directed against the Gulf region as well as the West.

U.S. relations with Saudi Arabia depends on more than oil, Mr. Bush said, adding that Saudi Arabia is a friend of the United States, and one of the few countries with whom the U.S. has a favourable balance of trade.

Mr. Bush said the Reagan administration was confident that the multi-million-dollar arms deal for anti-aircraft and naval missiles would make it through Congress.

He said the U.S. failure to deliver on an arms deal to Jordan was an "extreme embarrassment," because His Majesty King Hussein was a man the administration "adores for his moral courage."

Mr. Bush backed away from reports prior to his departure from Washington that said he was considering talking with the Saudis on achieving production curbs to prop up oil prices. He told the businessmen he was simply learning from the Gulf Arabs what they were doing about the problem.

He said the administration does not want a crude oil import tax, but said free market policies must be balanced against the fact that unemployment was soaring in the U.S. energy sector. "I have believed and I always will believe that a strong energy industry is important for the security of the United States," he said.

Mr. Bush reiterated the U.S. position that the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) must

(Continued on page 5)

Former Nigerian minister arrested

ABIDJAN (AP) — The commerce minister in Nigeria's ousted civilian government was arrested while trying to return to the West African country, Nigerian Radio said Sunday. The broadcast, monitored here, said Bello Maitama Yusuf was caught "trying to sneak into Kano." He is a native of the northern Nigerian city. The government radio said Mr. Yusuf's flight from London to Kano was diverted to the capital of Lagos because of inclement weather last Sunday, and he was picked up by security police. The radio did not say what charges Mr. Yusuf might face. The former minister was visiting Britain when the government of President Shugu Shagari was overthrown in a military coup Dec. 31, 1983.



Canadian Foreign Minister Joe Clark (centre) answers reporters' questions at a press conference in Amman on Sunday at the conclusion of his three-day visit to Jordan (photo by Youssef Al Allan)

Clark leaves describing visit as fruitful and constructive

By Sa'ad G. Hattar
Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN — Canadian Foreign Minister Joe Clark left for Saudi Arabia on Sunday after a three-day visit to Jordan during which he held talks with His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan and senior officials. Mr. Clark also concluded a broad Canadian-Jordanian trade and economic protocol and inaugurated a Canadian-financed school for Palestinian students in the Jordan Valley.

In a press conference before his departure, Mr. Clark described his visit to Jordan as fruitful and constructive.

However, the foreign minister conceded that Canada did not have any concrete proposals to revive the stalled Middle East peace process. He called on both the Arabs and Israelis to continue to seek a peaceful settlement to the Palestinian problem.

Describing the present situation in the Middle East as gloomy after

the collapse of the Jordanian-PLO efforts towards a negotiated settlement with Israel, Mr. Clark said the "sombre atmosphere in the region" was causing economic instability in all countries of the Middle East.

Canada, which was never seriously involved in any effort towards settling the Arab-Israeli conflict, was nevertheless keen to see peace and harmony prevailing in the Middle East, said the minister.

He said it was up to the parties involved in the Arab-Israeli conflict to initiate new moves towards settling the conflict.

The foreign minister praised His Majesty King Hussein's persistent efforts for a just peace in the region and said Canada fully supported the King's endeavours, which he said, contained political risks.

Answering a question on Canada's stand towards the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO), Mr. Clark said his country had always "recognised" the Palestinian people's support for the

PLO.

"We recognise the support (that the PLO enjoys) among the Palestinian people and we urge the organisation to reject violence and accept the sovereignty of Israel," he said. He added that low-level contacts were under way between the PLO and the Canadian government. He did not elaborate on the nature of the contacts.

Mr. Clark, during an election campaign in 1979, had promised to transfer the Canadian embassy in Tel Aviv to occupied Jerusalem. The promise provoked widespread Arab anger. However, Mr. Clark, after winning the election and assuming premiership, set up a special panel to study the suggested transfer. Nothing came of the transfer and Mr. Clark served only a nine-month term as premier.

In his press conference on Sunday, Mr. Clark said his talks in Amman did not cover any possible Canadian arms sales to Jordan and

(Continued on page 5)

Peres says U.S. to increase involvement in peace efforts

TEL AVIV (AP) — Israeli Prime Minister Shimon Peres told his cabinet on Sunday he believed the United States planned to step up its involvement in lagging Mideast peace efforts, a senior official said.

Cabinet Secretary Yossi Beilin told reporters that U.S. Secretary of State George Shultz was expected in the region "in the coming months" to help mediate the Tabat border dispute between Israel and Egypt and spark contacts for an Arab-Israeli dialogue.

Beilin said agreement on Mr. Shultz's prospective visit was reached during talks with Peres last week in Washington but no date was set and no specific proposals were raised.

The Haaretz daily said Undersecretary of State Michael Armistead was due to arrive in Israel this week to start contacts aimed at "defreezing peace efforts."

Negotiations over Tabat have dragged since the dispute broke out following Israel's pullback from the Sinai in April 1982.

Beilin said the Shultz visit would also include "an attempt for a resurgence of contacts to bring negotiations" with the Arabs.

Industry Minister Ariel Sharon, of the government's right-wing

Likud bloc, was critical of Peres' report on his visit to the U.S. and his proposal for a "marshall plan" to collect up to \$30 billion from the West to help Middle East countries.

The U.S. administration said it would consider the proposal, which is seen as a way of creating a climate for peace talks.

"Why do we need more American involvement?" an official quoted Sharon as telling Peres during the meeting.

"I think Israel has a great interest in more American involvement in resolving Tabat and other Mideast questions," Peres replied, according to the official who spoke on condition of anonymity.

Sharon, a former defence minister, expressed Likud concerns that more peace moves could increase pressure on Israel to recognise the PLO and relinquish territories occupied during the 1967 war.

The official also said Mr. Shultz agreed to consider Peres' request for the U.S. armed forces in Europe to nearly double purchases of Israeli military equipment from a current annual \$234 million.

Angola says S.African cargo plane shot down in its territory

LISBON (Agencies) — The Angolan Defence Ministry said on Sunday its forces intercepted and shot down a South African cargo plane air-dropping supplies to rebel units in the central province of Bie earlier in the week, Angola's state-run news agency reported.

Angolan air force jet fighters came upon three South African Hercules C-130 cargo planes some 25 kilometres west of the town of Caluanga in the north-western corner of Bie on Thursday, Angop reported in a dispatch from the Angolan capital Luanda.

One of the South African planes was shot down, a second was hit, and the third withdrew towards Namibia (South-West Africa), the

South African-administered territory more than 600 kilometres to the south, Angop quoted the Defence Ministry as saying.

The ministry said the three C-130s had been dropping crates of supplies to guerrillas of the rebel movement UNITA.

(In Pretoria Commandant John Rolt, spokesman for South Africa's armed forces, denied the claim, saying no South African aircraft had been shot down in the region.)

Angola accuses South Africa of backing UNITA (National Union for the Total Independence of Angola) rebel organisation.

U.S. missiles seen as key aid for UNITA, page 4

Polyakov and Egyptian officials discuss peace moves

CAIRO (Agencies) — Vladimir Polyakov, director of the Middle East Department at the Soviet Foreign Ministry, met on Sunday with Egyptian officials for talks aimed at improving relations between the two countries.

Following a meeting with Minister of State for Foreign Affairs Butros Ghali, Mr. Polyakov said they discussed bilateral and regional issues.

Dr. Ghali said Egypt was interested as a member of the non-aligned nations in reviving relations with the Soviet Union.

"This is not a new line nor a change in Egypt's stable position," he said.

Mr. Polyakov met separately with chief foreign affairs presidential aide Osama Al Baz who said the talks concentrated on the "need for progress in the Middle East peace efforts."

Mr. Polyakov said on Sunday Moscow supported the idea of an international Middle East peace conference to be attended by the five United Nations Security Council members and all parties concerned with the problem, including Israel and the PLO.

Mr. Polyakov arrived here Saturday from Jordan for a four-day visit. He is the second senior Soviet official to visit Egypt in less than a month.

Pavel G. Gerasimov, deputy chairman of the Supreme Soviet, paid a week long visit to Egypt last month.

Mr. Polyakov was the Soviet ambassador to Egypt in the early 1980s but was expelled in September 1981 by the late President Anwar Sadat for allegedly meddling in internal Egyptian disputes.

Egypt was heavily dependent on Soviet economic and military assistance from the mid-1950s until shortly after the 1973 war.

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Iranian helicopter attacks Saudi tanker near Qatar

Blaze extinguished; 1 crewman missing

BAHRAIN (Agencies) — Fire on board a Saudi Arabian tanker was extinguished Sunday following an Iranian Gulf war attack in Qatari waters which left one crew member missing and seven injured, shipping sources in the region said.

The crippled 13,721-ton Petrostar XVI, carrying 15,000 tons of fuel oil from Bahrain, was being towed to its original destination, Sharjah in the United Arab Emirates, by a tug belonging to Smit of the Netherlands, the sources said.

One member of the crew, totalling between 30 and 33 from Greece and the Indian sub-continent, was still missing 24 hours after the attack. Seven others, including the captain who was badly injured, were in hospital in Qatar, they said.

A helicopter-launched rocket slammed into Petrostar XVI at about 0700 GMT Saturday, starting a blaze in the accommodation quarters and the wheelhouse.

The sources said it was hit within five miles of Halul Island, where Qatar has an offshore crude oil processing plant, the sources said. One source called the attack "audacious."

It was the fourth Iranian strike on shipping since March 29.

About 30 vessels have been

confirmed hit by Iran or Iraq since January in the two-year-old "tanker war," an extension of their 5½ year ground conflict.

The 20,400-deadweight-tonne Petrostar XVI, owned by Petrostar Company Limited of Jeddah, was built in West Germany in 1963. Its previous names were Overseas Adventurer and Cherlyleaf.

Halul Island is about 30 miles west of an oil platform in the middle of the Gulf which shipping sources say Iran is using as a base from which helicopters attack tankers.

Rocket-firing helicopters have attacked at least 14 ships this year from the platform, known as Rostam Island, about 65 miles from Iran.

Previous Iranian attacks in the so-called tanker war between Iran and Iraq, an extension of their 5½ year ground conflict, were carried out by U.S.-built F-4 Phantom fighters based on Lavan Island, just off the coast of Iran.

The sources said using Rostam

Island as a base enabled Iran to identify and attack individual targets more easily than from Lavan. Saturday's attack coincided with the arrival in Saudi Arabia of U.S. Vice-President George Bush, who reaffirmed the Reagan administration's commitment to helping the kingdom deter a widening of the Gulf war.

U.S. officials said the White House planned to formally notify Congress of its intention to sell the Saudis a \$534-million package of anti-aircraft and anti-ship missiles.

Since Iraq started hitting ships bound for ports of Gulf Arab states supporting Iraq, at least 120 ships, mostly tankers, have been hit by missiles and rockets.

The official Qatari News Agency was the only source for the report the first day, and the executives said Gulf Arab authorities had obviously sought to play down the incident.

"The Gulf Arab authorities obviously do not want the situation to boil over, now that Iran has attacked a vessel flying the Saudi flag," said a Kuwait-based shipping executive, who spoke on condition his name not be revealed.

Iranian warplanes attacked the

Yanbu Pride along with tankers flying the Kuwait flag in May 1984. A month later, Saudi Air Force jet fighters engaged Iranian military aircraft in a dogfight over Saudi territorial waters, where an Iranian Phantom jet was shot down.

Since the dogfight the Iranians moved their attacks on commercial ships to Shah Ullam, a narrow waterway between Qatar and the Iranian Lavan Island, which houses an air base.

Gulf shipping sources were divided in their opinion as to whether the attack on the Petrostar XVI was deliberately aimed at a Saudi vessel.

"There is little doubt that the Saudi flag was picked out, the Iranians want to challenge Bush and his aid promise for the Gulf Arabs," said one Bahrain-based shipping executive.

But one Kuwaiti shipping agent contended that the Iranians "chose their target randomly ... they just prowl and hit."

Two other Saudi flag vessels, the supertankers Ahoud and Safina Al Arab were also crippled in the tanker war in May 1984. But Saudi officials have claimed the two attacks were not deliberate.



Abdul Rahman Swareddahab

Sudan celebrates 1st revolt anniversary

KHARTOUM (AP) — Sudanese strongman Abdul Rahman Swareddahab on Sunday reaffirmed his pledge to hand over to civilians as Sudan celebrated the first anniversary of his coup against President Jaafar Numeiri.

In a nationally broadcast 20 minute speech, Gen. Swareddahab said that power would be formally handed over on April 26 when the constituent assembly holds its first meeting and selects a new civilian administration.

"We will hand over what you entrusted us with, with honesty and loyalty to the oath which we took from the very beginning," Gen. Swareddahab said.

Gen. Swareddahab's speech came in the midst of 12-day national election to choose a new parliament, restoring civilian rule after one year of military-led government.

The balloting is expected to end on April 12.

In his brief speech, Gen. Swareddahab thanked the United States for its aid provided during last year's African drought and famine, and for American assistance "which still flows."

Gen. Swareddahab's remarks followed two weeks of bitter denunciations of the United States by Sudanese officials for the American clashes with Libya in the disputed Gulf of Sirte.

Achille Lauro runs aground

ALEXANDRIA, Egypt (AP) — The Achille Lauro, the Italian cruise liner hijacked by Palestinian gunmen last October, ran aground Sunday just outside Alexandria harbour with about 600 tourists aboard, port officials said.

No injuries were reported among the passengers or the ship's more than 300-member crew, including Capt. Gerardo De Rosa, the same skipper who was at the helm when the blue-and-white Achille Lauro was commandeered last Oct. 7.

On Sunday evening the cruise ship was refloated at 14:40 GMT, port officials said.

The officials said the ship was to leave for Port Said Monday morning as scheduled.

Cairo again sends arms to Sudan

CAIRO (R) — Egypt's latest arms shipment to Sudan has underscored the strength of ties between the two Nile basin countries despite recent chills, government sources say.

The free-of-charge shipment arrived in Khartoum Saturday and the sources said it comprised field guns, shells and anti-aircraft guns. Egypt's ambassador to Sudan, Hussein Musharafa, said 20 armoured vehicles were due to be shipped there soon.

Mr. Musharafa, quoted by the Middle East News Agency (MENA), said the arms were not linked to the three-year-old bush war between government troops and rebels in southern Sudan, but the sources said they knew of no restrictions which could prohibit Sudan from using the arms against the rebels.

Saturday's shipment was the second since last year, when Cairo gave Khartoum arms worth \$14

million as a gift.

"The shipment comes within the framework of the cordial ties between the two brotherly countries," Mr. Musharafa said.

The sources said Cairo had decided to send the arms after a visit to Khartoum last month by Maj.-Gen. Salah Abdul Halim, chief of armed forces operations.

News of the arms supplies came less than a week after the Khartoum interim government decided to dissolve bodies set up under the 1982 Egyptian-Sudanese integration agreement, which it said did not reflect the interests of the two peoples.

Egypt, bound to Sudan by a 1976 joint defence pact, has played down the significance of the Sudanese decision, saying the institutions have been inactive for over a year.

The integration agreement, once conceived as a prelude to unity, was signed by President

Hosni Mubarak and Jaafar Numeiri, ousted from the Sudanese presidency a year ago by army generals.

Numeiri has lived in exile in Cairo since his overthrow, leading to protests from Khartoum and calls for his extradition, which Mr. Mubarak has rejected.

Egypt's latest arms shipment came at a time when the rebels of the Ethiopian-backed Sudanese People's Liberation Army (SPLA) are stepping up attacks against government garrisons.

It also coincided with a previously-unannounced visit to Ethiopia by Egyptian Foreign Minister Ahmad Esmat Abdul Maguid, who had talks with Ethiopian leader Mengistu Haile Mariam Saturday.

The sources said Mr. Abdul Maguid, who handed Mr. Mengistu a message from Mr. Mubarak, was seeking Addis Ababa's help in efforts to bring to an end the bush war in southern Sudan.

Associated Press 'identifies' Abu Nidal

LONDON — As the result of erroneous newspaper photographs, Dr. Abdel Quader Yassine, professor of political science at the Conflict Research Department of Sweden's Gothenburg University, has for the past three months been a key figure on police "wanted" lists.

The photographs, which appeared in 38 newspapers worldwide, claimed that he was Abu Nidal, head of the Palestinian terrorist group responsible for the outrages at Rome and Vienna airports.

Since then Dr. Yassine, who was born in Palestine in 1946 and carries a Jordanian passport, has been detained and interrogated at sea and airports in Amsterdam, Copenhagen, Brussels and Finland. In Amsterdam he was deported on the first available plane.

In Copenhagen the interrogation lasted sixteen hours; in Brussels ten hours; and in Finland eight hours.

"I am both angry and depressed," Dr. Yassine told the CAABU Bulletin. He is also concerned that his life might be in danger. In 1973, he recalled, a Moroccan waiter was shot dead in the north Norwegian town of Lillehammer by agents of Mossad.

the Israeli Secret Service. He too had been the subject of newspaper photographs claiming that he was a "terrorist."

Dr. Yassine, married with three children, is a member of Yasser Arafat's Fateh commando group, and in the 1970s was Research Director at the PLO's Planning Centre in Beirut. Death is no stranger to such PLO officials. "I never feared for my life. I dedicated all my life to the just cause of the Palestinian people. But the last thing I want is to be killed by mistake," he said.

The erroneous photograph (like that which led to the Moroccan waiter's death) was supplied by the U.S.-based Associated Press (AP) Wire Service, which described it as a "1978 file photo." In Britain it was carried by the Times and Guardian on Jan. 8.

Dr. Yassine contacted AP and the two British papers, enclosing photographs of himself and demanding a correction and apology. However, it was only after the London Observer had described the fiasco that the two papers set the record straight. Even then, the Guardian omitted to mention that it had ever carried the false picture. AP has yet to take corrective action.

Strangely, three days after Dr. Yassine's photograph was distributed, AP issued another picture purporting to show Abu Nidal. Dr. Yassine has met the commando leader. The last time was at a seminar in Baghdad in 1976. He does not know the identity of the man in dark glasses shown in AP's second picture, but he is certain that it is not Abu Nidal.

A third picture of Abu Nidal, which has been widely circulated, was taken in 1976, showing a man in military fatigues, including a cloth cap. Dr. Yassine said, possibly with a degree of diplomacy, that the picture "could be of anyone." He did not, however, deny that it was Abu Nidal.

According to Dr. Yassine, the offending picture first appeared in 1978 in the local Swedish daily Vasteras Tidende, in a report on a seminar he was attending. The photographer was Coje Larson. When Dr. Yassine approached Mr. Larson early this year, however, "he told me to go to hell."

Dr. Yassine plans to sue AP and all 38 papers which carried the picture. Lawyers in America have advised him that he has every chance of success — Council for the Advancement of Arab-British Understanding.

Kyprianou, Thatcher to discuss Cyprus

NICOSIA (R) — Britain will try to dispense Greek Cypriot concern about a draft U.N. accord to reunite Cyprus during talks with Cypriot President Spyros Kyprianou in London Monday, Western diplomats said Sunday.

Mr. Kyprianou, whose government and Turkish Cypriots have been asked by U.N. Secretary-General Javier Perez de Cuellar to reply to the draft by April 21, will have talks with British Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher.

Britain sees the draft, handed to Greek and Turkish Cypriots last week, as the best chance for a solution to the Cyprus issue, the diplomats said.

"Britain has firmly supported the U.N. secretary-general's considerable efforts on Cyprus and despite both sides' reservations,

This document may well be a last chance," a diplomatic source contacted in London said.

Greek Cypriots have protested to the U.N. that the draft contains "substantial changes" to their detriment from points agreed during preliminary talks in Geneva.

They are concerned that the 16-point document skirts issues they regard as crucial such as the withdrawal of 20,000 Turkish troops, international guarantees and a demand for freedom of movement throughout Cyprus.

Turkish Cypriots have maintained an official silence on the accord but have indicated they may accept it.

The draft outlines possible steps to federate Turkish Cypriots — whose "Turkish Republic of Northern Cyprus" is recognised only by Ankara — with Greek Cypriots

who control the internationally recognised government in the south.

A Greek Cypriot official said: "There are differences between the Greek Cypriots and the U.N. on matters of substance and procedure. But we stress that no definite decisions will be taken before the present consultations are completed."

The draft proposes that working groups discuss freedom of movement, while "adequate guarantees" and a timetable for a troop pullout be agreed before "establishment of a transitional federal government."

The Western diplomats rule out any question of pressure on Mr. Kyprianou from Britain, a guarantor with Greece and Turkey of the 1960 constitution which established the republic.

TASS: U.S. uses Israel to arm Pretoria

MOSCOW (R) — The official Soviet News Agency TASS accused Washington Sunday of sending arms to South Africa through Israel.

It said cooperation was growing between Tel Aviv and Pretoria with the approval of the United States "which, reluctant to compromise itself... by direct contacts with the apartheid regime, has turned Israel into a kind of transshipment point for large-scale supplies of U.S.-made weapons and military hardware to the Republic of South Africa."

Arms being offered to South

Africa included jet fighters, military transport planes, tanks, missiles and submarine guns, TASS said. The two countries were also working together in the nuclear field.

The weapons were being used by the "racists to suppress the just struggle of South Africa's indigenous population and for the bandit raids against neighbouring independent states," TASS said.

Meanwhile in Tel Aviv, a research chief said Saturday Israel is offering uranium prospecting services abroad and is now negotiating with a number of countries

interested in finding commercially viable uranium concentrations.

Chovav Tsafir, director of the Research and Field Test Department at the Nachal Sorek Nuclear Research Institute, said his research team was offering its expertise to foreign countries developing long-range atomic energy projects.

"We are now engaged in negotiations with a number of countries," he told Israel Radio, but said he could not name the countries concerned.

W. German defence minister in Israel

TEL AVIV (AP) — West German Defence Minister Manfred Woerner arrived in Israel on Sunday for a four-day visit that will include briefings on "how to fight terrorism."

Mr. Woerner also will be briefed on "Israel's defence problems, and how we cope with our main task, which is to prevent war," said Defence Minister Yitzhak Rabin, who greeted Mr. Woerner and his wife at Ben Gurion International Airport.

Mr. Woerner, the first West German defence minister to visit Israel, said he hoped his trip would "serve to intensify normal and good relations with Israel."

"Neither you nor we can forget what has happened in the past," said Mr. Woerner, referring to the Nazi crimes during World War II. "But one must look to the future and to peace," he said. "Our continents are so close that they cannot separate strife in this area from strife there."

Mr. Woerner said in a German television interview before leaving for Israel that his visit was informative only and would not deal with weapons deals.

The daily Haaretz reported that Mr. Woerner will ask for information on Soviet weapons which Israel has captured from Palestinian commandos and from Syria.

'Israel to react after viewing Waldheim files'

TEL AVIV (AP) — A government official said Sunday that Israel would only decide on its reaction to allegations about Kurt Waldheim's Nazi past after it reviews the United Nations file about the Austrian presidential candidate.

"We will examine, study and then decide," said the official, who declined to be identified.

At Israel's request, the U.N. announced Friday that it had granted access to an Israeli representative to see the file at the archives in New York. The U.N. stipulated that Israel must not reveal the content of the confidential file.

Israeli Ambassador Benjamin Netanyahu is expected to review the documents on Monday or Tuesday, said the official in Israel.

The daily Davar reported that

Israel might also send a police expert, possibly from its Nazi war crimes investigation unit, to review the documents. A police spokesman said he did not know about such plans.

The Israeli decision to ask for the file was made under pressure from the World Jewish Congress (WJC), the New York-based organisation which published documents allegedly showing that Dr. Waldheim was involved in the killings of thousands of Yugoslav Partisans and the deportation of Greek Jews to extermination camps in World War II.

Dr. Waldheim has denied the allegations.

Davar reported that the Israeli request was made despite warnings from Israel's embassy in Vienna that such a step could be viewed as interference in internal Austrian affairs.

Israel has so far maintained a

low profile on the issue, saying only that it would not comment until the allegations were proven. The daily Yediot Ahronot editorialised that "the government's position on the subject is delicate... if Waldheim is cleared, we will have many problems in all aspects in our relations with his country."

But the conservative mass-circulation daily also said that "we should not ignore the issue either, because in the question of Nazis and Nazism political considerations cannot be the determining factor."

Israel was granted access to the war commission files on at least two past occasions — when it was seeking information about the Sadistic Nazi doctor Josef Mengele and again for Adolf Eichmann who was hanged here in 1962 for masterminding the killing of Jews.

TV & RADIO

WHAT'S GOING ON

FOR THE TRAVELLER

USEFUL TELEPHONE NOS.

JORDAN TELEVISION Tel: 731111		21:55 News Summary
		22:00 Evening Show Contd.
		23:00 News Summary
		23:45 Evening Show Show Contd.
		24:00 Close down
PROGRAMME ONE		
16:30	Kanan	
16:30	Cartoons	
16:30	Mickey Mouse	
16:30	Live transmission of Soccer match: Kuwait vs Bahrain	
17:30	Children programme	
18:20	Small Wonder	
18:45	Arabic Series	
19:30	A programme on the National Book Week	
20:00	News in Arabic	
20:35	Arabic Series	
21:25	Tomorrow's programme	
21:30	Islamic play	
22:00	News Summary in Arabic	
PROGRAMME TWO		
18:00	Boite aux lettres	
18:00	News in French	
18:15	Magazine Sport (French)	
19:30	News in Hebrew	
20:00	News in Arabic	
20:30	Carol Burnett And Friends	
21:10	Heart of the High Country	
22:00	News in English	
22:20	Dallas	
RADIO JORDAN 855 KHz. AM & 99 MHz. FM and partly on 95.60 KHz. SW Tel: 731111-19		
07:00	Light Music	
07:30	Newsdesk	
07:45	Morning Show	
08:00	News Summary	
08:05	Pop Session	
08:15	News Summary	
08:30	Pop Session Contd.	
08:35	News Bulletin	
08:40	News Bulletin	
08:45	Over a Cup of Tea	
08:50	Concert Hour	
09:00	News Summary	
09:05	News Summary	
09:10	News Summary	
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23:45	News Summary	
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23:55	News Summary	
24:00	News Summary	

TODAY'S EVENTS	
EXHIBITIONS	
* An art exhibition by Mohammad Abu Zuhair at the Housing Bank Complex Gallery	
* A fine art exhibition by Ayad Al Nimer at the Royal Cultural Centre (until April 8)	
* Art exhibition by Ghada Dababneh at Petra Bank Gallery (until April 9)	
* An exhibition of plastic art by Jamal Elkhams and Mohammad Al-Jarrah at Yarmouk University (until April 9)	
* Sculptures exhibition at the French Cultural Centre starting Friday (until April 11)	
* Exhibition of bronze statues by Layla Haddad at Ibtisam studio in Al Babah suburb, near Al Babah pharmacy (until April 11)	
* An exhibition entitled: "Danish and Arabic Architecture" at the Faculty of Engineering and Technology, University of Jordan.	
PLAY	
* An Arabic play for children by the Pawanee Theatre Group at 10:00 a.m. at the Royal Cultural Centre.	
MUSICAL	
* The well-known American musical ANNIIE at 7:30 p.m. with Friday matinee at 3:00 p.m. at the Royal Theatre Club (until April 21).	
FEATURE FILM	
* "All That Jazz" at 7:00 p.m. at the American Centre.	
CULTURAL CENTRES	
Royal Cultural Centre .. tel. 661026/7	
American Centre 644371	
American Centre Library 641520	
British Council 636147/8	
French Cultural Centre 637009	
Goethe Institute 641993	
Soviet Cultural Centre 644203	
Spanish Cultural Centre 634049	
Turkish Cultural Centre 639777	
Haya Arts Centre 665195	
Hussein Youth City 667181/6	
Y.W.C.A. 641793	
Y.W.M.C.A. 664251	
Amman Municipal Library 637111	
University of Jordan Library 843555	
MUSEUMS	
Follere Museum: Jewellery and costumes over 100 years old. Also mosaics from Malaba and Jerash (4th to 18th centuries). The Roman Theatre, Amman. Opening hours: 9:00 a.m. - 5 p.m. Year-round. Tel. 651760.	
Jordan Archaeological Museum: Has an excellent collection of the antiquities of Jordan. Jabal Al Qal'a (Citadel Hill). Opening hours: 9:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m. (Friday and official holidays 10:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.). Closed Tuesdays.	
CHURCHES	
St. Joseph Church (Roman Catholic) Jabal Amman, tel. 624592.	
Church of the Annunciation (Roman Catholic) Jabal Luweideh, 637440.	
De la Salle Church (Roman Catholic) Jabal Hussein, 661757.	
Church of the Ascension (Greek Orthodox) Al-Jabal, 623541.	
Anglican Church (Church of the Redeemer) Jabal Amman, 678906.	
Armenian Catholic Church Ashrafieh, 771331.	
Armenian Orthodox Church Ashrafieh, 771351.	
St. Ephraim Church (Syrian Orthodox) Ashrafieh, 771751.	
Amman International Church (Inter-denominational) meets at Southern Baptist School in Shuqban, 677534.	
Evangelical Lutheran Church, Jabal Amman, 6th Circle, (Rev. N. Smir), Tel. 811295.	
Rabwah Congregation (International, Inter-denominational) meets in the Church of the Redeemer, Jabal Amman, Tel. 60674.	
PRAYER TIMES	
04:51 Fajr	
06:15 Sunrise (Sunrise) Duha	
12:39 Dhuhr	
16:13 Asr	
19:01 Maghrib	
20:25 Isha	

QUEEN ALIA INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT	
This information is supplied by Alia information department at the Queen Alia International Airport tel. (08) 53200-3, where it should always be verified.	
ARRIVALS	
09:55	Sam'a (LH)
10:15	Sam'a (RJ)
10:35	Kuwait (RJ)
10:45	Muscat, Dubai (RJ)
10:55	Amman (RJ)
11:00	Damascus (RJ)
11:00	Cairo, Amman (RJ)
11:00	Abu Dhabi, Bahrain (RJ)
11:00	Muscat, Abu Dhabi, Dubai (GP)
16:10	Jeddah, Medina (SV)
16:35	Jeddah, Medina (SV)
16:35	Istanbul (TK)
16:35	Cairo (RJ)
19:15	Casablanca, Tunis (RJ)
19:25	Beirut (MEA)
19:35	Cairo (MS)
19:45	Bangkok (RJ)
21:00	Baghdad (IA)
21:05	Cairo (RJ)
DEPARTURES	
08:30	Jeddah (RJ)
10:40	Frankfurt (LH)
12:30	Vienna, Chicago, Los Angeles (RJ)
13:40	Lamaca, Paris (RJ)
13:45	Frankfurt, Copenhagen (RJ)
14:15	Bahrain, Abu Dhabi (RJ)
14:30	Cairo (RJ)
15:35	Kuwait (LH)
16:30	Medina, Jeddah (SV)
20:30	Cairo (MS)
20:30	Kuwait, Doha (RJ)
20:45	Bahrain, Doha (RJ)
21:00	Damascus (RJ)
21:00	Baghdad (IA)
21:15	Jeddah (RJ)
21:15	Cairo (RJ)
22:00	Baghdad (IA)
22:15	Abu Dhabi, Dubai (RJ)
MARITIME TRAFFIC	
Regular-line ships docking at Aqaba port:	
— Banglar Sampad	
— Marathea Elegance	
Amin Kewar and Sons Company, Tel: 623234-9 at your service.	
WEATHER	
Bulletin supplied by the Department of Meteorology.	
It will be hazy and partly cloudy. Possibly there will be scattered showers in the southern and coastal parts of the country. Winds will be southerly moderate to fresh. In Aqaba, it will be hazy and partly cloudy. Scattered showers will be there, associated with thunderstorms at times. Winds will be southerly fresh and sea rough.	
Amman 13/26	
Aqaba 16/33	
Desert 12/27	
Jordan Valley 16/32	
Yesterday's high temperatures: Amman 26, Aqaba 33. Humidity readings: Amman 18 per cent, Aqaba 17 per cent.	
MONEY EXCHANGE	
Sunday rate:	
Local selling rates in fils:	
Belgian franc	133.2 / 135.4
Dutch guilder	47 / 48.2
French franc	21.6 / 22
Italian lire	250 / 260
Japanese yen (for 100)	262.2 / 264.2
Swiss crown	179.8 / 183
U.K. sterling pound	521.3 / 529.6
U.S. dollar	359.5 / 364
W. German mark	149.8 / 152.6

EMERGENCIES		NIGHT DUTY	
Amman governorate 891228		AMMAN:	
Amman civil defence 198, 199		Dr. Abdul Aziz Abu Khalaf 663552	
Civil Defence Irbid 271293, 273131		Dr. Tayyar Al Saeid 675952	
Civil Defence Qawmeish 770733		First pharmacy 661912	
Civil Defence Deir Alla 57306		Al Salama pharmacy 636730	
Ambulance 193, 771511		Badr pharmacy 670311	
Amman downtown fire brigade 198		Taghreed pharmacy 674746	
First aid 630341		Al Mughniyah pharmacy 662894	
Blood bank 778303		TAXIS:	
Civil Defence rescue 661111		Venicia taxi 644583	
Fire headquarters 622090-3		Al Ahman taxi 663911	
Police rescue 192, 621111, 637777		Mehyar taxi 664574	
Police headquarters 639141		Asman taxi 844558	
Traffic police 863300		Alman taxi 666022	
Electric Power Co. 636381/4, 624881		Al Nahar taxi 811619	
Municipal water complaints 771125/8		Shuqban taxi 665294	
Queen Alia Int. Airport (08) 533036/0		HOSPITALS	
Hussein Medical Centre 81381/332		Khalidi Maternity, J. Amn 644281/6	
Khalidi Maternity, J. Amn 644281/6		Akheh Maternity, J. Amn 644281/6	
Jabal Amman Maternity 644281/6		Jabal Amman Maternity 644281/6	
Maltes, J. Amn 636111		Palestine, Shuqban 664173/4	
Shuqban Hospital 669131		University Hospital 845845/65	
Al-Musharraf Hospital 667227/9		The Islamic, Al-Jabal 644281/6	
Al-Ahli, Al-Jabal 664164/6		Italian, Al-Musharraf 677101/3	
Al-Bashir, J. Ashrafieh 775112/6		Army, Malaba 896111/5	
Queen Alia Hospital 602409/0		Amal Hospital 6741	

EC to provide technical assistance to Yarmouk

AMMAN (J.T.) — Yarmouk University and the British Council in Amman Sunday signed an agreement for a technical cooperation programme which calls for the exchange of expertise between university professors at the Faculty of Science and a number of European universities in the 10 member European Community group (EC). The agreement is phase two of an earlier agreement signed between Jordan and the EC.

The agreement's provisions include exchanges of visits between professors of the Yarmouk University's Faculty of Science and EC universities in order to encourage academic research in areas relevant to the interests of both sides.

The programme also stipulates that technicians from EC universities train technicians at Yarmouk University's Faculty of Science and that members of the faculty's staff in EC higher education institutions be trained on operating scientific equipment available at the university's facilities.

The agreement was signed by the Yarmouk University President Adnan Badran and Mr. David Latta, representing the British Council.

The university signed an agreement with the British Council in June, 1982 to cover technical cooperation related to phase one of a grant given by the EC to the university.

In another development, the university also renewed an earlier agreement with the Trieste-based International Centre for Theoretical Physics for the year 1986. The agreement was signed by Dr. Badran and the centre's acting director, Mr. Luciano Pertuch.

Under the agreement, the university and the centre will cooperate in the fields of physics in general and theoretical physics in particular. The agreement also allows the university's professors to attend and participate in all the 1986 workshop the institute organises, provided they arrange for their participation in advance.

Authority closes 4 travel offices for violations

AMMAN (Petra) — The Tourism Authority has closed down four travel and tourist offices in Amman and Aqaba for a month for violating tourism regulations. A statement issued Sunday said that the four offices sold fake travel tickets and issued tickets for land travel in violation of Ministry of Interior regulations that confine selling these tickets to a specified number of travel offices in the country.

Meeting under the chairmanship of Minister of Tourism Mohammad Al Khatib, the Tourism

Authority board also issued licences for three new travel and tourist offices in Amman and cancelled a number of other licences at the request of their proprietors, the statement said. It also said that permission has been granted to three oriental souvenir stores to open in Amman and Zarqa and for two hotels to be built at South Shuneh, in the Jordan Valley, and at Wadi Musa near the Nabatean city of Petra. The board decided to hold its forthcoming meeting at Petra where its members will also inspect services offered to the public.

JPRC issues annual report

AMMAN (Petra) — The Jordan Petroleum Refinery Company (JPRC) last year made a gross profit of JD 12,459,865, largely through refining crude oil and selling oil products and the total quantity of crude oil refined by company was nearly two million tonnes, according to JPRC's annual report. The report said that 1,782,000 tonnes came to JPRC through the Tappah oil pipeline from Saudi Arabia, 698,661 tonnes from Iraq, and 2,843 tonnes from Hamzeh oil field in Jordan. JPRC last year sold a total of JD 243,270,932 worth of oil products against JD 225,683,808 in 1984, the report added.

In addition, the report said last

year JPRC imported 10,014 tonnes of liquid gas and 394,614 tonnes of fuel oil from Iraq which it sold for local consumption.

According to the report, JPRC manufactured 46,200 gas cylinders and also imported 100,000 cylinders for the local market.

Referring to the company's expansion projects, the report said that a new plan for refining crude oil is being installed to raise the total production capacity and it added that plans have been drawn up to step up the production of cylinders. The company also plans to build petrol stations in Karak and 11 storage wells for fuel oil, the report said.

Jordanian industries to exhibit products in Tunis

AMMAN (Petra) — A Jordanian national industrial fair will open in Tunis on April 8 and all arrangements have been made for the participating companies to exhibit their products, according to an announcement issued by the Trade Centres Corporation. The announcement also said that the 10-day fair will display a variety of Jordanian industrial products manufactured by 80 Jordanian businesses.

A total of \$1 million worth of

products will be allowed to be sold directly to the Tunisian public and Jordanian businessmen can draw up contracts to sell more products during the fair, the announcement said. It said there are indications that Jordanian manufacturers will be able to conclude contracts worth \$15 million. The announcement said that samples of Jordanian national products have already been shipped to Tunis via Aqaba.

NEWS IN BRIEF

Decree approves envoy's appointment

AMMAN (J.T.) — A Royal Decree has been issued approving the cabinet's appointment of Mr. Ali Khreis as Jordan's ambassador to Syria. Mr. Khreis used to serve as director of the Civil Service Commission before being transferred to the Foreign Ministry. He will leave for Damascus shortly to assume his post.

Haj Hassan opens charity bazaar

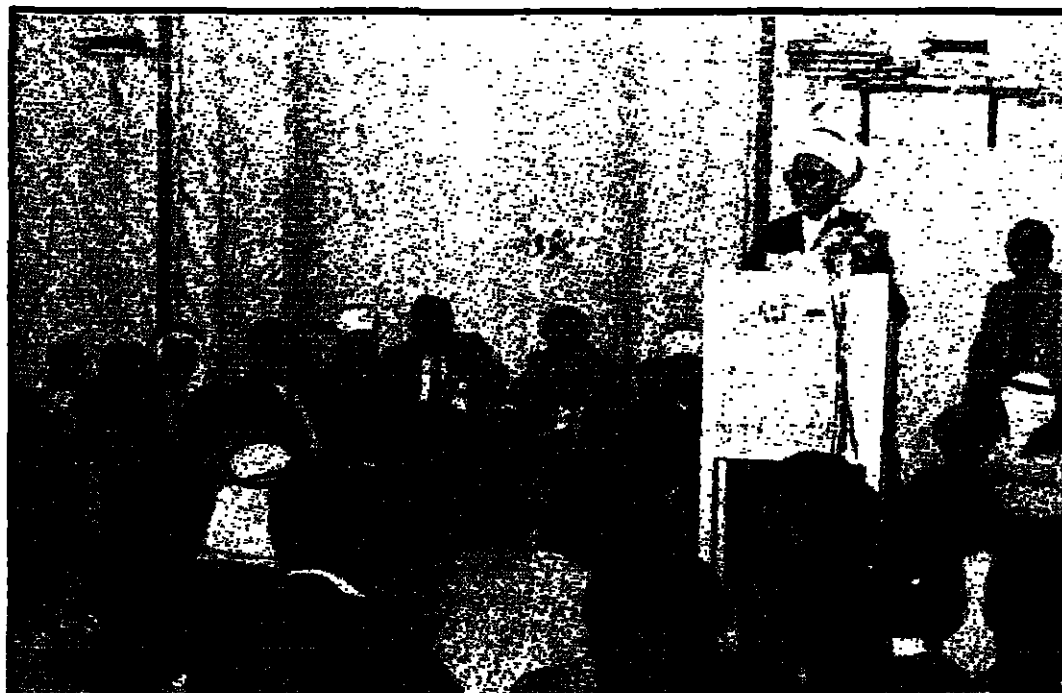
AMMAN (Petra) — Minister of Labour and Social Development Khaled Al Haj Hassan Sunday opened a charity bazaar at the Housing Bank centre in Amman. The bazaar is organised by charitable societies in Amman Governorate. On display for six days are samples of embroidery, traditional costumes, artificial flowers, straw and other handicraft work produced by families cared for by the participating societies. Altogether 25 charitable societies are taking part in the bazaar to raise funds for their work and to needy families in the governorate.

Japan donates rice to refugees in Jordan

AMMAN (Petra) — The Japanese government has donated 5,500 tonnes of rice to the World Food Programme (WFP) for distribution to refugees living in Jordan. The quantity valued at approximately \$ one million is expected to arrive at Aqaba airport on April 15.

Department discusses cropping system

SALT (Petra) — The Department of Agriculture in Balqa Governorate Sunday organised a meeting at the Professional Associations Complex in Salt to discuss a number of matters concerning local farmers. Among the main speakers was Mohammad Lawzi, director of the department, who discussed the applications of agricultural cropping patterns and the benefits for farmers. Dr. Salem Butros, director of agricultural information at the Ministry of Agriculture, also spoke about the system which, he said, is designed to organise agricultural production.



Chief Islamic Justice Sheikh Mohammad Mhailan (left) explaining the meaning of Al Isra'a Wal Mi'raj (Petra photo) Sunday delivers a sermon at Al Hussein Mosque in Amman.

Jordan to mark World Health Day today

AMMAN (J.T.) — Jordan along with world nations will observe World Health Day today and the slogan for this year is "Healthy Living: Everyone a Winner."

The slogan was selected by the World Health Organisation (WHO) which said in a press release Sunday that the event must focus people's attention on sensible patterns of life and underline the positive steps that individuals and communities can take to protect and promote their own health.

In a statement on the eve of the anniversary, Health Minister Zaid Hamzeh said that people ought to realise the importance of the saying "prevention is better than cure" and should follow a balanced diet and do physical exercises to ensure a healthy and happy life.

In Jordan, the health authorities are keen on preserving the health of people and with this in mind they have launched vaccination campaigns and campaigns against smoking, drug taking, bad driving and road dangers, the minister said.

He said that the Health Ministry has been keen on securing good health for all citizens, with particular attention given to primary health care. The seventh of April each year is celebrated as World Health Day and it marks the date in 1948 when sufficient countries had ratified their signatures to bring the Constitution of the World Health Organisation into force.

Ever since 1950, a theme related to international public health has been chosen for World Health Day, with an appropriate slogan. In 1955, the slogan was "Clean water means better health."

All over the world, governments, WHO national committees, United Nations associations and non-governmental organisations help to arrange events related to the theme.

AMMAN — Although off the beaten gallery track, the small exhibition of the works of Layla Haddad in her studio is definitely worth a visit. Arranged over three rooms in a light and airy second floor apartment in Shmeisani, among straw, mirrors and intriguing Japanese-like compositions of dried flowers, are strange sculptures — faces of men and animals that have more than a hint of sorcery, even black magic about them.

ART REVIEW

These small, often ugly, but never boring pieces represent a new and quite radical departure for Haddad whose last exhibition at the Alia art gallery three years ago was full of sleek, smooth bronzes that moved with graceful curves. The change came after Haddad took an opportunity last summer to live and work in the south of France. There, in countryside Haddad describes as "savage", she found rough rocks and stones full of magic that instantly spoke to her. By using a little clay, treated in a special way to make it take on a look as ancient as the stones to which it was applied, Haddad transformed what were simply rocks for most people into heads of animals — a goat with a little curling horn, a unicorn, a pig with fierce eyes and flaring nostrils, the curving arch of a horse's head and neck — and of the people she saw them as.

Fairytale shapes

Full of mystery, these rough yet vital works seem to come from a land of fairytale populated by giants and dwarves, by trolls and leering ogres and by elves with large, floppy ears. There is a bewitching touch of evil about these

Ministers brief cabinet on trade talks with Indonesia

AMMAN (J.T.) — The cabinet was Sunday briefed on the outcome of Jordanian-Indonesian economic and trade talks held recently in Jakarta and which resulted in the signing of a bilateral agreement on promoting economic ties between the two countries.

Minister of Industry and Trade Rajai Muasher and Minister of Energy and Mineral Resources Hisham Al Khatib presented the briefing to the cabinet. The two ministers accompanied His Majesty King Hussein on his visit to Indonesia and took part in the talks with Indonesian officials.

Under the new deal, Jordan has agreed to allow more Indonesian imports in Jordan, including textiles, cooking oil, rubber, coffee and tea, to help adjust the balance of bilateral trade, now in Jordan's favour. Total trade last year was valued at around \$40 million with Indonesia buying Jordanian phosphates and potash.

On Friday, Indonesian Foreign Minister Mochtar Kusumaatmadja said the agreement will provide Indonesia with access to an important transit point for exporting to other Arab countries, Turkey and Western Europe. He said the agreement opened up new opportunities for trade with the Middle East and other countries.

Also at Sunday's cabinet session, Foreign Minister Taher Al

Masri reported on his talks with Mr. Vladimir Polyakov, head of the Middle East Department at the Soviet Foreign Ministry, who paid a two-day visit to Jordan last week during a tour of the region. He also reported on his talks with Canadian Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs Joe Clark. Mr. Masri said the talks centred on bolstering Jordan's ties with the Soviet Union and Canada.

Trade ties with Brunei

Jordan is also to bolster its economic and trade ties with the Sultanate of Brunei which King Hussein and the Jordanian delegation visited before their trip to Indonesia, according to Dr. Muasher upon his return to Amman earlier on Sunday.

The minister said that his talks with government officials in Brunei centred on the possibility of Jordan exporting fruit and vegetables to Brunei by air through Aila, the Royal Jordanian Airline. The two sides also discussed providing Brunei with Jordanian expertise in the fields of medicine, engineering and education and assigning a number of seats at Jordanian universities for students from Brunei, the minister said. Both sides also agreed in principle to launch joint economic ventures and to establish a joint bank, minister added.

Public security officers complete 13-week training programme

AMMAN (Petra) — A batch of 134 non-commissioned officers graduated Sunday at a ceremony held under the patronage of Major General Sami Al Saket, the assistant director of the Public Security Department.

The graduates have completed a 13-week training programme on police work and heard lectures on legal cases. They also received special military training and scientific knowledge needed for their work.

Maj. Gen. Saket made a speech at the graduation ceremony pointing out the importance of police officers and their duty and responsibility towards the community. Also speaking on the occasion was the director of the police officers training college and one of the graduates.

Towards the end of the ceremony the graduates received their diplomas. Several senior Public Security officers were present at the ceremony.

Jordan celebrates anniversary of Isra'a Wal Mi'raj today

Notables attend ceremony to mark holy Islamic event; speakers call on Muslims to liberate Jerusalem, Al Aqsa

AMMAN (J.T.) — Jordan, along with Arab and Islamic nations, will Monday celebrate Al Isra'a Wal Mi'raj, the anniversary marking the Prophet Mohammad's nocturnal journey and ascension to heaven.

On the eve of the occasion a ceremony was held at Al Hussein Mosque in downtown Amman which was attended by Deputy Prime Minister Abdul Wahab Al Majali, who deputised for His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan, the Regent, and other senior officials.

Chief Islamic Justice Sheikh Mohammad Mhailan delivered a sermon explaining the meaning of Al Isra'a Wal Mi'raj and its importance in Islam. Apart from its religious dimension, this feast reminds the believers of Islam to fight for the liberation of the holy places, he said. An Islamic Jihad (holy war) for liberating Al Aqsa Mosque is a duty that should be shouldered by all male and female Muslims able to carry arms and fight the invaders who violate the sanctity of the holy shrine, Sheikh Mhailan said.

Also speaking at the gathering was Mr. Akram Zu'eiter, chairman of the Royal Commission on Jerusalem, who said that Al Isra'a Wal Mi'raj is an occasion for Muslims to remember the sanctity of the holy city of Jerusalem and its religious links with Mecca. Apart from being an Arab issue, Jerusalem is an Islamic question and Muslims have a duty to liberate the holy city from Israeli rule, Mr. Zu'eiter said.

The Israeli occupation of Jerusalem is the worst defeat ever inflicted on the Muslims and the future of Islam lies in the liberation of the city, Mr. Zu'eiter added.

Arabs and Muslims have a just cause but this does not mean that rights can be restored without struggle and without an Islamic Jihad, Mr. Zu'eiter continued. He said that Israel's drive to demolish Al Aqsa Mosque could be a prelude to invading Al Ka'aba in Mecca and the Prophet's tomb in Medina.

Minister of Awaqaf and Islamic Affairs Sheikh Abdul Aziz Al Khayyat spoke to the Jordanian News Agency, Petra, underlining the importance and the meaning of Al Isra'a Wal Mi'raj in Islam. He said that Jerusalem and Al Aqsa Mosque remain the symbol for Palestine and for Muslims and he went on to say that all Israeli measures designed to Judaize the city and all the conspiracies to demolish the mosque will end in total failure.

Sheikh Khayyat reminded Muslims of the need to formulate a comprehensive plan to regain Al Aqsa and Palestine and to achieve a just and honourable peace, guaranteeing the rights of the Palestinian people. He said that Muslims should carry out a holy war (Islamic Jihad) to regain their holy places and their rights.

Jerusalem was regained from the Romans through the Islamic conquests and Muslims were able

to retake the city from Crusaders, in 583 through a holy war, Sheikh Khayyat said. Any shirking of the duty to rescue Jerusalem is bound to cause humiliation and destruction for the Muslim people, Sheikh Khayyat said.

Sheikh Izeddin Al Khatib Al Tamimi, the Kingdom's mufti, urged Muslims to make determined efforts to rescue Al Aqsa Mosque and liberate the holy city from Israeli occupation. Muslims should follow in the footsteps of their great ancestors in liberating their holy land, he said.

Under Secretary of the Ministry of Awaqaf and Islamic Affairs Abdul Salam Al Abbadi said that Al Isra'a Wal Mi'raj stands out as a reminder for Muslims to mobilise their efforts to confront the Israelis who now occupy Al Aqsa Mosque. Muslims have to benefit from past lessons and follow in the footsteps of the great Islamic leaders who fought the invaders to liberate their holy land, Dr. Abbadi said.

On the occasion, a religious ceremony was held at Aqaba attended by His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan, the Regent.

Public holiday

Amman Governor Ali Al Basbir has requested provincial governors to organise special ceremonies in mosques to mark the holy occasion. He also ordered that all night clubs, liquor stores and bars should be closed in Amman and its suburbs from Sunday evening until Tuesday morning. All government departments and public institutions will be closed on Monday.

Speaker of Spain's Senate due in Amman on Wednesday

By a Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN (J.T.) — Speaker of the Spanish Upper House of Parliament (Senado) Jose Federico de Carvajal will arrive here on Wednesday on a seven-day official visit to the Kingdom. Mr. de Carvajal, who will head a five-member Senado team, is expected to meet with his Jordanian counterpart Mr. Ahmad Al Lawzi and with Lower House of Parliament Speaker Akel Al Fayez as well as a number of senior Jordanian officials.

According to the Jordanian News Agency, Petra, discussions between the Spanish and Jordanian sides will focus on relations between the two countries and means to strengthen parliamentary cooperation between Jordan and Spain.

Petra also reported that the visiting Spanish team will review with Jordanian officials the political situation on the international arena in general and the latest developments in the Middle East in particular. The delegation will also tour the country's tourist, cultural and historic sites.

According to observers, the Spanish team's visit to the country is part of stepped-up efforts on both sides to strengthen cooperation between Jordan and Spain in the fields of politics, trade, commerce, tourism and culture.

A Spanish Lower House of Parliament delegation left Jordan on Saturday after a week-long visit to the Kingdom during which they were briefed by His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan, the Regent, on the recent developments in the region, the Iran-Iraq war and the Palestine question as well as issues of mutual concern.

The 12-member delegation, which was headed by Mr. Leopoldo Torres Boursault also met with the ministers of information, foreign affairs, occupied territories and planning as well as representatives of the Amman Chamber of Commerce.

Mr. Torres Boursault, who is first deputy speaker of the Spanish Lower House of Parliament (Congreso de Los Diputados), in his departure statement on Saturday, said that Spain seeks to establish a just and durable Middle East settlement.

He also told the Jordan Times that Spain's Jan. 1 entrance to the European Community will strengthen his country's hand in defending the interests of the Arab World. Spanish Ambassador to Jordan Emilio Menendez del Valle also told the Jordan Times that a similar Jordanian parliamentary delegation is expected to visit Spain to further promote cooperation between the two countries.

Government leases more land for development

AMMAN (J.T.) — The government has leased 22,500 dunums of state-owned land to two local companies which will develop the land for agricultural purposes. An initial agreement on leasing the land was signed by Minister of Agriculture Ahmad Dakqan, acting for the government, and representatives of the Jordanian Company for the Production of Fodder, Cereals and Meat, and the Jordanian Centre for International Trade, Mr. Mamdouh Abu Hassan and Mr. Yusuf Abdul Respey.

Under the agreement, the two companies will implement agricultural projects at Sahi Al Suwwan and Mudawara, both in the southern regions of the country. The first company will develop 16,500 dunums at Mudawara and the second, 6,000 dunums at Sahi Al Suwwan by growing wheat and fodder as well as fruit trees, including apples and almonds. Both firms will establish farms for raising cattle and livestock and will build installations and processing and packing factories for dairy products, according to the agreement.

Last Thursday, the government signed a similar agreement with a local company for developing 21,000 dunums of land at Sahi Al Suwwan in the course of a plan to encourage investment in the semi-desert regions of the Kingdom and to increase food production. The lease is against a nominal annual fee of 100 fils a dunum. The cabinet recently decided to lease a total of 75,000 dunums of land in the south to five Jordanian companies specialising in agriculture.

The land at Sahi Al Suwwan and Al Mudawara has abundant supplies of underground water which could be used for irrigation purposes, according to Mr. Dakqan. According to a spokesman for the

Ministry of Agriculture, the plan is a way of solving the problem of Jordan's food needs and for reducing the country's dependence on foreign food sources which sap a good deal of hard currency.

Closing the food import gap

Jordan has been importing 450,000 tonnes of wheat annually, nearly 75 per cent of the country's total requirements. It has been importing poultry feed and fodder for livestock, although local poultry production is self-sufficient and vast areas of land have the potential to be exploited for producing fodder and animal feed, the spokesman said.

According to the spokesman, the development of the southern regions of Jordan takes into consideration animal husbandry, the production of lean meat, of which Jordan has been importing 26,000 tonnes a year, in addition to dairy products of which Jordan has been importing 80,000 tonnes per annum.

To encourage food production, the government has offered incentives to local firms exploiting the semi-desert lands and has pledged to purchase their output at subsidised and competitive prices for a period of five years, according to Mr. Dakqan.

The investors are entitled to certain privileges and will be exempted from paying income, land or any other tax related to agriculture during the five year period. They will also be able to bring in machinery and farm implements without paying customs fees, according to the minister. He said that any installations set up for the implementation of these agricultural projects will also be exempted from any tax or duty in accordance with a Jordanian law on the encouragement of investment.

Team leaves for meeting on housing the homeless

AMMAN (Petra) — A Jordanian delegation Sunday left Amman for Dubai to take part in a consultative meeting designed to prepare the ground for the international year on sheltering the homeless people.

The delegation is led by Housing Corporation Director Shafiq Zawaideh who said in a pre-departure statement that the conference is designed to discuss ways for improving housing conditions for all people and means to shelter the homeless from now and until the year 2,000. The two-day preliminary meeting for the 1987 international year for sheltering the homeless will be attended by delegates from all Arab countries, Mr. Zawaideh said.

He said the meeting will help the delegates exchange information on the subject and will also discuss housing plans in the Arab region and ways of fulfilling the objectives of the international year.

The call for observing this international year came from the United Nations General Assembly which hopes to obtain political commitments from all governments to work for improving poor districts and carrying out housing projects for needy people and sheltering the homeless, Mr. Zawaideh continued.

Campus hosts architecture exhibition

AMMAN (J.T.) — A five-day exhibition of Danish and Arabic architecture opened at the University of Jordan's Faculty of Engineering on Saturday. On display are 150 paintings of architectural projects by a number of Danish engineers. The exhibition was opened by University of Jordan President Abdul Salam Al Majali and the ceremony was attended by university deans, students and Denmark's ambassador to Jordan.

Jordan Times

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Summit in the air?

THERE has been renewed talk lately about the possibility of holding the long-delayed Arab summit in a capital other than Riyadh and as soon as circumstances allow. Sana'a, the North Yemeni capital, was suggested, and an early summer date for the meeting projected, but it is still uncertain whether either the place or the time is good enough for every Arab leader to attend.

The problems that have prevented the summit from being held so far have not really been the venue and the timing, although these are always important factors in any leader's plans for travel and debate. The real obstacles are to be found in the will of the Arab Nation's leaders to meet and hammer out appropriate solutions to their differences and political estrangement that have plagued us for so long.

It does not seem to matter at all for some of our leaders to see the Arab situation deteriorating day after day and not do anything to stop the slide. To them, political and ideological differences should always occupy centre stage. Also, it does not seem to matter in the least whether Arab credibility and vital interests suffer continuous blows and defeats. The responsibility for this is invariably passed on to the other leader's shoulders. "We, in this country, can hardly be blamed," is the motto of almost every leader who does not wish the summit to see the light. What a sorry state of affairs indeed!

But this situation is unhealthy and dangerous. For not only collective Arab action is at stake here: our institutions and will to progress are threatened too and face total paralysis and collapse.

Unfortunately, there is no escaping the repetition of the old wisdom again and again: The Arab World has got to face up to its responsibilities without any further delay. Those are just words, but as the foreign minister, Mr. Taher Al Masri, recently pointed out, "All the excuses made in the past to evade the convening of the summit have become futile now, and if it is further delayed on the pretext of making more consultations, the Arab World's agonies will perpetuate." What else can we say?

ARABIC PRESS EDITORIALS

Al Ra'i: Continued Arab resistance

ISRAEL's war minister has announced that Arab resistance has carried out 573 operations against Israeli occupation in the Arab territory during 1985. He said that resistance activity has increased by 25 per cent over the past year and that police and military forces have been increasingly put on alert in view of the presence of explosives and other suspicious objects. It goes without saying that this announcement is a prelude to stepped-up Israeli arbitrary actions against the Arabs, and is a pretext for oppressive measures against the steadfast people in the occupied territories. The statement is intended as a means for drawing the sympathy of the Western countries in general and the United States in particular with the hope of obtaining more aid for Israel. For the Arabs, this statement means that the enemy has now admitted openly that the struggle was continuing but that more oppressive measures are being stepped up to deal with resistance action. It also means that the Israelis have failed to stifle the voice of the resistance which is continuing unabated. In the light of this situation, we ask the Arab countries about their role and their shirking of their duty towards supporting the Arab people under Israeli rule.

Al Dustour: War against the wrong enemy

THE Palestinian refugee camps in Beirut continue to be subjected to shelling and attacks by the Amal movement at a time when all other efforts are directed towards confronting Israel with all possible means. The continuous conflict around the camps and the attacks on the refugees have caused so much destruction and killed and maimed so many people. Whatever the justification for the attack, the camps should not be the target of the Amal movement, and all guns should rather be directed towards the Israeli enemy who has been massacring Lebanese people in the south. The Arab nation which has suffered so much and offered so many sacrifices for ridding itself from the Israeli occupation should be allowed to pursue the struggle to end Israel's domination. All efforts should be pooled towards liberating southern Lebanon from Israeli rule, and not directed for evil objectives and for killing innocent people in the camps.

Sawt Al Shaab: Friends and foes

THE Soviets have been more realistic and more understanding than the Americans in their dealing with the Middle East issue and they have been supporting the just causes of the peoples of this region. Soviet diplomacy is trying at present to bring about a comprehensive and acceptable peace for all states in this region of the world. But the Americans have failed so far in doing any meaningful thing for the region, and all their efforts succeeded only in consecrating the no-war, no-peace situation which bears the seeds of danger and war. All the American initiatives for solving the Middle East conflict have been rejected because they all ignored the rights of the people of Palestine and excluded the Palestinian role in any negotiations for peace. The Americans also failed in bringing peace nearer to this region through their bilateral agreements and their partial solutions. Unlike the Americans, the Soviets support the Fez Arab summit resolutions and peace formula that have been rejected by both Israel and the United States. The Soviets have been supporting all the Arab unanimous agreements because these agreements and resolutions are the only means of achieving peace.

Papal plot verdict removes East-West embarrassment

By Patrick Worsnip

Reuter

LONDON — The acquittal by a Rome court recently of three Bulgarians charged with plotting to assassinate the Pope has removed a lingering embarrassment from East-West relations.

The fact that the defendants were acquitted for insufficient evidence rather than totally absolved, and the expectation of appeals and further inquiries in Italy mean that the case will still drag on for some time and debate will continue.

But the return to Sofia on April 1 of airline official Sergei Antonov, the only Bulgarian to be held in Italy, seems to exclude any

Bulgarian being jailed in future for a role in the May, 1981 wounding of Pope John Paul in St. Peter's Square.

Western officials and analysts said the bizarre court behaviour of Mehmet Ali Agca, the Turk serving a life sentence for shooting the pontiff, had deflated the entire case.

The essence of the charges was that Bulgarian government agents, acting through Turkish gangsters, hired Agca to shoot the Pope in an effort to cut short his support for the Solidarity free trade union in his native Poland.

Western commentators assumed the Bulgarians would never have targeted one of the leading figureheads of Western civ-

ilisation except on the orders of the Soviet Union. Agca himself claimed Soviet agents were behind the alleged plot.

The sensational allegations, for which Agca was the main source, were the subject of several books including "The Time of the Assassins" by Rome-based journalist Claire Sterling, which supported the idea of the "Bulgarian connection."

At a time when international terrorism was a major world issue, the charges suggested that Moscow would stick at nothing in its pursuit of its foreign goals.

But the prosecution's case against the eight defendants — Antonov, two Bulgarian diplomats being tried in their absence, Agca

and four other Turks — began to founder as soon as the trial opened last May.

Agca repeatedly claimed that he was Jesus Christ and continually changed his testimony, giving a total of 128 different versions of the alleged murder plot, according to one defence lawyer.

Soviet and Eastern bloc commentators jeered at the proceedings, while Western governments preferred to withhold comment.

Western analysts said the whole affair now appeared to have fizzled out.

"I think it's just going to die the death. It's dead," said Leslie Collins, a Bulgaria specialist at London's School of Slavonic and East

European Studies. "It was cut and dried it would be a different issue altogether."

Soviet bloc media have predictably exulted over the acquittals. The Soviet news agency TASS said it was a defeat for Western "reactionary quarters" seeking to strain East-West relations.

In Washington, U.S. officials said long-term damage to East-West and U.S.-Bulgarian relations appeared to be ruled out, and that ties with Bulgaria could be improving, with efforts being made to arrange some cultural exchanges.

Italy and the Vatican both moved some time ago quietly to ease strains with Bulgaria caused by the affair.

Western experts said the full story of the shooting looked unlikely ever to come out.

One U.S. official said Washington originally thought the evidence against the Bulgarians "quite conclusive" and that they could have been convicted had Agca's court antics not lost him credibility.

But some Americans disagree, such as former intelligence official William Hood, writing in the U.S. government publication "Problems of Communism."

He described Agca as "a psychopathic free-lance terrorist who stumbled into relatively innocent contact with Bulgarian intelligence, and... decided independently... to kill the Pope."

U.S. missiles seen as key aid for guerrillas in Angola

By Thomas Thomson

Reuter

JOHANNESBURG — American-made Stinger missiles will provide a significant boost to anti-Communist guerrillas in Angola, who are facing attack by Soviet-supplied interceptor planes and helicopter gunships, according to defence analysts.

Congressional sources in Washington said this week the Reagan administration had begun covertly to supply several hundred missiles to UNITA (the National Union for the Total Independence of Angola) and to rebels in Afghanistan. The administration has not commented.

The Angolan war is mainly a hit-and-run affair, with government forces and their Cuban allies facing attacks almost everywhere in a country larger than France, Italy and West Germany put together.

But Jonas Savimbi's UNITA troops also have long-established bases in the south and are expecting a government offensive against them towards the end of April.

The defence analysts said UNITA, which has only a few light aircraft used for liaison, faces possible attack by MIG-23 interceptors and Hind helicopter gunships, supplied by Moscow.

According to the strategic studies professor at the University of South Africa, Deon Fourie, Stinger missiles will be more effective than Soviet-made SAM-7 anti-aircraft missiles now used by UNITA.

UNITA has been fighting the Marxist government in Luanda since Angola's independence from Portugal in 1975. It has long been supported by South Africa and is now being armed by the United States as well.

The London-based International Institute for Strategic Studies estimates that UNITA has some 18,000 regular guerrillas and a 23,000-strong militia. The

Luanda government has some 49,500 regular forces and a militia reserve of some 50,000.

Luanda's forces are bolstered by what the institute estimates are 20,000 Cubans, plus 6,000 civilian instructors or advisers, some 500 East German advisers and 700 Soviet advisers and technicians.

UNITA spokesmen in Lisbon say the rebel group remains committed to a guerrilla war, pitting small mobile groups against government positions and the larger, less manoeuvrable Cuban and Angolan columns.

UNITA regularly claims raids in practically all of the country's provinces and says it has a secure hold on the south east, where its headquarters, Jamba, is located.

Its attack last month on the diamond-mining town of Andara, in Luanda province some 1,300 km north of the Jamba area, was an indication of its striking power.

British technicians among the nearly 200 foreigners captured there said after their release through neighbouring Zaire that the dawn attack was well planned and executed.

But in addition to extending operations to the north, UNITA says it will be well prepared for the expected government offensive.

Spokesmen say the Jamba base is already defended against air attack by anti-aircraft machine-guns and SAM-7 missiles. UNITA claims its Soviet-made SAM-7s are captured from the Angolans but the missiles can also be bought on the international market.

Western military sources say UNITA's current arsenal also includes 82-mm mortars and 75-mm recoilless cannon. Most of the UNITA regulars are armed with Soviet-made AK-47 assault rifles or the G3 automatic rifles used by the Portuguese armed forces.

UNITA says its funds come from the sale of diamonds captured from mines in Luanda province, ivory and wood and from sporadic donations by backers it does not name.

Communism thrives in racial-torn S. Africa

By Ruth Pitchford

Reuter

JOHANNESBURG — Communism, invoked for decades by white South Africans as the inevitable beneficiary of black majority rule, is gaining support in the country's strife-torn townships.

Communism, sweeping defined to include many opponents of apartheid race discrimination whose views are far removed from orthodox Marxism-Leninism, has been outlawed for over 35 years by white-dominated South African governments.

For years the clampdown succeeded in keeping Communist support firmly underground. But last weekend, delegates — many of them relatively moderate, older men and women — who crowded into a Durban hall to debate black education held a minute's silence for Moses Mabhida, a South African Communist leader who died last month in exile.

The silence lasted only moments before a delegate led cries of "Viva the SACP", then spelt it out — "Viva the South African Communist Party."

The slogans, unheard in public a few years ago, were widely echoed around the hall.

The red hammer and sickle flag, which activists were once loath to display, is now unfurled with ceremony at the funerals of the more prominent victims of clashes between security forces and black radicals.

Many township radicals have acquired a strongly Marxist-influenced vocabulary for expressing their opposition to white dominance.

But political analysts say that formal membership of the outlawed SACP, one of the world's oldest Communist parties, is far smaller than the defiant sloganeering might suggest.

Unabating battles against the police and troops who have been poured into black areas in the past 25 months suggest that the tow-

nships might offer the SACP a fertile recruiting ground.

But Tom Lodge, an expert in black politics at Johannesburg's Witwatersrand University, told Reuters this was not the way the party operated.

"It is a vanguard party and tends therefore to approach and select people on the basis of their known track record," he said. He believes most recruiting goes on outside South Africa, among young blacks who seek guerrilla training in camps run by the exiled African National Congress (ANC).

ANC guerrillas infiltrated back into South Africa probably therefore include a growing number of SACP members, but Lodge puts total membership in hundreds rather than thousands.

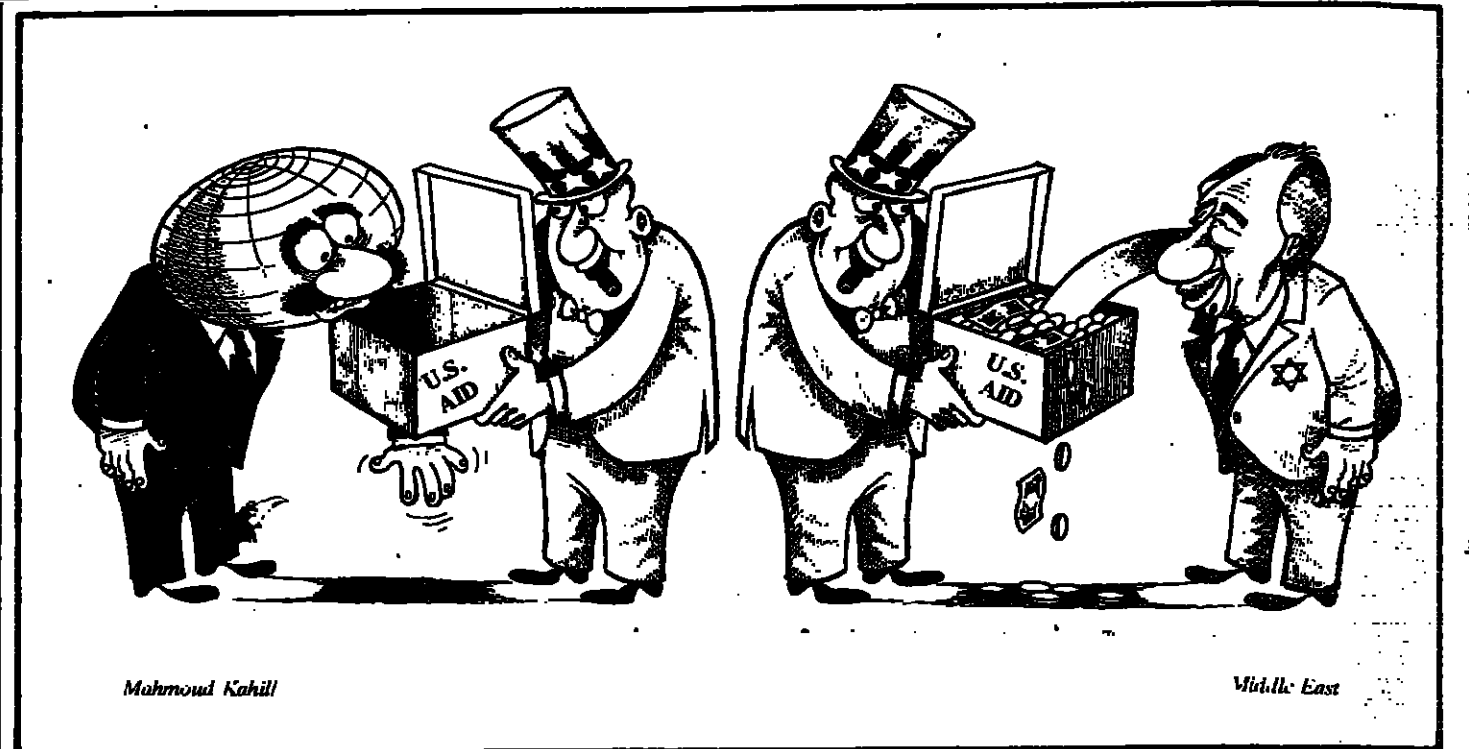
"It is certainly gaining popularity (in the townships). But I've come across no evidence that it is actually recruiting inside the country independently of the ANC," said Lodge. "It doesn't seek to compete with the ANC."

Pretoria alleges that SACP members dominate the exiled leadership of the ANC, using the movement as a means of bringing South Africa under Soviet Union domination.

Lodge disputes this, saying his own research suggests that leaders in the ANC's broader nationalist tradition balance and possibly slightly outnumber committed Communists.

The SACP, founded in 1921, initially muddled its image among blacks through recruiting white workers, many of them vehemently racist. But it then began to win support in black townships through campaigns over apartheid-related grievances and by the 1950s its leadership was predominantly black.

The banning of the ANC in 1960 strengthened links between the two. Despite ideological tension and distinctly different aims, the SACP's connection with the nationalist movement has survived, both in exile and in the minds of township youths.



Mahmoud Kahil

Middle East

France starts its slow swing to the right

By Brian Childs

Reuter

PARIS — A pattern for France's economic future has begun to take shape as the nation's new generals start mapping a course for a slow swing to the right.

Since his right-wing alliance stole a bare majority at the polls two weeks ago, Gaullist Prime Minister Jacques Chirac has been busy stitching together a package to present to the new National Assembly.

The assembly met for the first time Wednesday, but Chirac will probably spell out his programme in a week's time. While he is stressing the need for "economic recovery," the economic signals suggest he has time for thought.

"Chirac seeks to hasten slowly on the economy," said the daily Le Monde in a recent headline to an article which described Finance Minister Edouard Balladur as a "thoughtful craftsman of liberalisation."

French delegates at the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development's Policy Committee stand by the former Socialist administration's forecasts of three per cent growth and less than three per cent inflation this year.

And while campaign pledges of an immediate abolition of price controls would nudge the inflation rate above four per cent, Budget Minister Alain Juppe has already announced a shift of ground towards a more cautious phasing out, little different from previous government policy.

The new government has reaffirmed campaign promises to denationalise state-run firms and deregulate prices and labour markets. But its latest statements betray a cautious respect for the political limits of its authority and an emphasis on uncontroversial issues like boosting youth employment.

When Chirac spells out his new programme in the National Assembly after procedural technicalities have been completed, the framework in which he operates will have been set by Socialist President Francois Mitterrand in a separate speech.

The blocking powers of the president and the government's shaky majority have already produced a shift away from some radical campaign postures.

In talks with trade union leaders last week Labour Minister Philippe Seguin said he wanted a dialogue for reform of France's unwieldy employment laws.

Seguin's soft line was welcomed by labour moderates and regretted by employers' leader Yvon Gattaz.

But it followed a warning by Mitterrand that he would veto attempts to bulldoze away job protection laws by decree.

In his first statement as prime minister, Chirac said he would seek decree powers to push through urgent economic reforms. But after a cabinet meeting last week Budget Minister Juppe hedged the government's bets.

Juppe, the government's spokesman, said major tax and spending cuts would be delayed until the 1987 budget in September. Decrees would be used only to

make a limited start on other aspects of the government's economic agenda, such as measures to encourage part-time and temporary employment, extend employee profit-sharing schemes, cut social security charges on youth employers and prepare some initial denationalisation, he said.

Newspaper editorials said Juppe's comments recognised the danger of provoking a clash with the still-powerful Socialist presidency.

The caution of the government has been reflected in its handling of the French franc, foreign exchange dealers say. Despite protests from bankers and simmering speculation, Finance Minister Balladur has so far avoided a devaluation of the franc within the European Monetary System (EMS), the mechanism which links the currencies of eight European Community states.

Balladur's staff are reported to have echoed his Socialist predecessor Pierre Berégovoy in calling a devaluation absurd.

Some bankers say they still expect an EMS realignment next weekend when EC finance ministers meet in the Netherlands. But others say it may be delayed at least until a planned meeting between Chirac and West German Chancellor Helmut Kohl.

European diplomats here say these talks, expected later this month, could see the creation of a potent new Paris-Bonn axis in EC monetary and farm policy affairs.

But that, too, raises the question of how far Chirac can go in developing foreign policy initiatives.

Ground rules for coexistence agreed by Mitterrand and Chirac after the recent elections assigned a foreign policy role to Mitterrand and domestic policy to the new right-wing government, presidency and cabinet officials say.

Both political leaders, likely rivals for presidential elections due by 1988, have a short-term interest in showing they can make such "cohabitation" work. But each has a longer-term interest in curbing the powers of the other.

Mr. Mitterrand has already raided the domestic policy arena by threatening to veto radical labour decrees, while Chirac last week plunged into foreign affairs, announcing plans to accompany Mitterrand to the Tokyo Economic Summit of world leaders next month.

Beneath their surface cooperation, tensions between the Socialist president and the Gaullist prime minister run deep.

"The president of the republic has not wished to forbid the use of decrees... but he has the power to limit their use, and he has already used it," Socialist Party Secretary Lionel Jospin told party deputies last week.

Deputies who gathered for the assembly opening said they expected major economic policy battles to be delayed until the September budget.

Although few deputies doubt Chirac will try to push through free market policies for the industrial and financial sectors, the pace of change seems likely to be slower than many on the right would like, they said.

Painstaking investigation produces final evidence on Mengele's death

By Richard Waddington

Reuter

SAO PAULO — Dogged detective work by an American dentist turned diplomat has produced the final evidence Brazilian police believe they need to convince the world that Nazi war criminal Josef Mengele is dead.

Police and U.S. forensic experts say they now have an irrefutable case that the Nazi doctor known as the "angel of death" drowned in Brazil seven years ago, his identity unsuspected and unchallenged by his hunters.

While Brazil and the United States accepted the findings of an international team of experts last June that a body dug up from a Sao Paulo grave was that of Mengele, many Jewish organisations refused to do so and the Israeli government declined to call off the 40-year hunt for the Nazi doctor.

Since last week's discovery of dental X-rays dating from 1976, West Germany and Israel have been on-committal.

But U.S. and Brazilian officials say they are certain the records, tracked down by U.S. Consul Stephen Dachi, will enable them to close the case.

"There is no more room for doubt," said U.S. forensic odontologist Lowell Levine, a member of the international team who

returned to Brazil to help make the final identification. Hans-Eberhard Klein, the Frankfurt public prosecutor who for 12 years has led the hunt, said on Tuesday West German officials would go to Brazil to examine the X-rays this month.

Mengele is held responsible for the deaths of 400,000 people in Auschwitz concentration Camp during World War II.

Until West Germany declares Mengele dead, a \$429,000 reward for information leading to his capture remains valid.

Levine said X-rays were as good as fingerprints for establishing a person's identity and those found last week matched the skull recovered from the hillside grave.

"The case is closed," said Federal police chief Romeo Tuma, who headed the investigation launched early last June following a tip-off from West German authorities.

But it may still be difficult for surviving victims of Mengele's horrific experiments, carried out in pursuit of Hitler's racist dream, to accept that one of the most hated and feared Nazis died unpunished for his crimes.

According to his son Rolf who broke the Mengele family's 40-year silence last June to confirm his father's death, the Nazi doctor went to his grave unrepentant.

Letters and documents Rolf

gave to the West German magazine Bunte show Mengele planned to resume his work and hid microscopic slides with blood tissues and samples for the day when he could acquire a laboratory again.

While Simon Wiesenthal and other Nazi-hunters were convinced that Mengele was hiding in Paraguay protected by dictator Alfredo Stroessner, he spent the last 18 years of his life moving from one smallholding to another on the outskirts of Sao Paulo, a sprawling city of 13 million people.

Mengele fled Europe for Argentina in 1949 and after living openly in Buenos Aires for several years moved to Paraguay, where he was granted citizenship in 1959.

But he stayed in Paraguay for less than two years, arriving in Brazil in 1961. Here he was befriended by an Austrian Nazi-sympathizer Wolfgang Gerhard, under whose name he was eventually buried.

He was introduced to a Hungarian immigrant family, the Hunnys, with whom he lived until 1975, when an Austrian couple, Wolfram and Liselotte Bossert, took over the property's role.

It was the Bosserts who led police to Mengele's grave after West German police intercepted letters from them to a former Mengele

family employee. The Bosserts and Stammers provided a wealth of evidence, including documents and photographs that were later authenticated, to support their testimony that Mengele had lived in Brazil for 18 years.

Forensic tests comparing the bones with war-time records convinced the international team that the body was Mengele's.

However, death camp survivor groups continued to express doubts, suspecting an elaborate hoax. Late last year, the U.S. Justice Department gave Brazilian police a list of six doctors and dentists whose names appeared in Mengele's Brazilian diaries.

After initial police inquiries drew a blank, the U.S. consulate took up the hunt for any recent medical records that could finally seal the case.

It took three months, but Dachi finally tracked down a dentist in the Sao Paulo suburb of Santo Amaro who had a set of dental X-rays, of a man he knew as "Peter Hochbichler."

"As soon as I saw the first X-ray, I knew we had struck gold," said Dachi, an oral pathologist who joined the U.S. diplomatic service 18 years ago.

Mengele's bones still lie unclaimed in the Sao Paulo coroner's department.

Excavations at Tell Abu Hamid site shed light on humankind's earliest farming settlements

The following article is part one of a two-part series on the first season of excavation at Tell Abu Hamid site in the Jordan Valley. The second part will appear in tomorrow's Jordan Times.

By Rami G. Khouri
Special to the Jordan Times

THE first season of excavations by a joint Jordanian-French archaeological team at the site of Tell Abu Hamid, in the north Jordan Valley, has uncovered the remains of an extensive but relatively short-lived settlement that promises to shed new light on humankind's earliest farming villages.

The joint archaeological expedition of Yarmouk University's Institute of Archaeology and Anthropology and the French National Centre for Scientific

Research (CNRS), co-directed by Dr. Genevieve Dollfus and Dr. Zeidan Kafafi, excavated at Tell Abu Hamid for seven weeks in January and February.

The extensive site covers an area of some six hectares in the Ghor El-Balawneh, between the Jordan River to the west and the village of Abu Sidu to the east, 16 kilometres north of the better known site of Tell Deir Alla. It sprawls out over a series of at least three low mounds formed on natural hills, at an altitude of 250-240 metres below sea level.

One reason it was chosen for a

settlement site around 4,000 B.C., during the Chalcolithic period, was the presence of strong underground springs in the immediate vicinity, two of which are still productive. The residents of the ancient farming settlement may also have drawn water from the Jordan River, only 500 metres to the west.

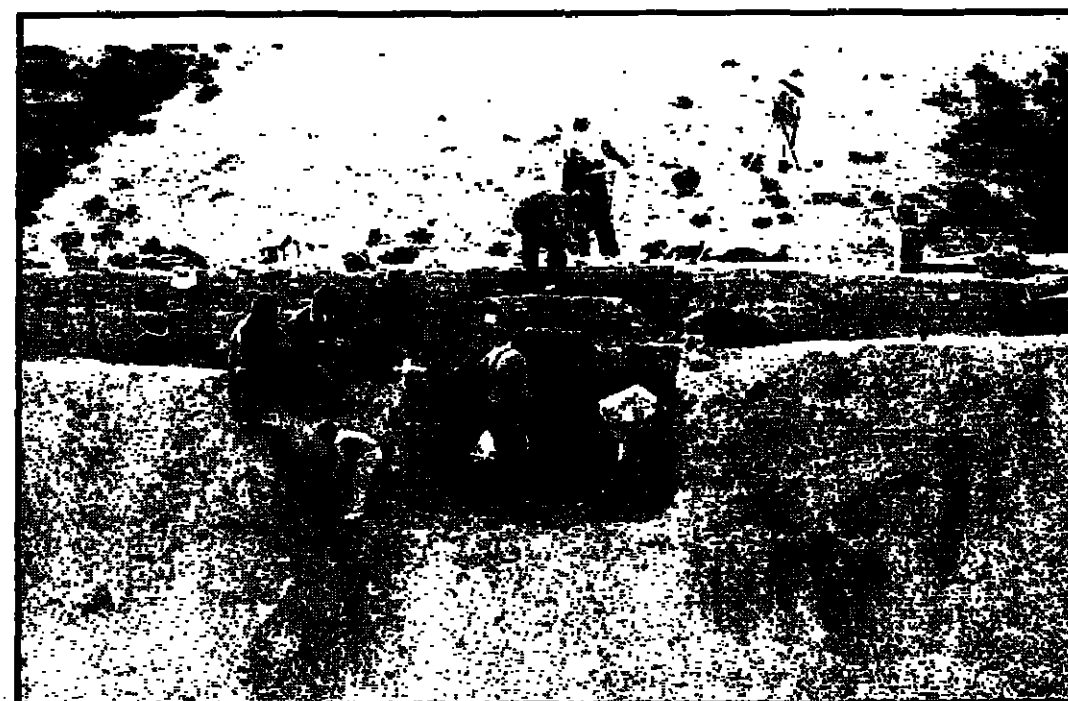
Like several other prehistoric period farming settlements in the Jordan Valley, Tell Abu Hamid is located in the whitish-coloured *kattur* hills, overlooking the river, or lower floodplain of the Jordan River. It is also strategically located near a national crossing point over the Jordan River.

The site was only discovered in 1975, during the Jordan Valley archaeological survey headed by Dr. Moawiyah Ibrahim, Dr. Kheir Yassin, and Dr. James Sauer. They noticed ancient wall lines on the surface of the ground, flint tools, and many pottery sherds from the Neolithic/Chalcolithic period, along with smaller amounts of pottery from the Middle Bronze, Late Bronze, Early Roman and Byzantine periods.

The long-term Jordanian-French joint project aims to find out more about cultural, economic and settlement patterns in Jordan/Palestine during the Chalcolithic period, in the 5th and early 4th millennia B.C. The 1986 excavations have shown Tell Abu Hamid to be particularly valuable in this respect, for it seems to have been a single period site that occupied for perhaps only 100-200 years, around 4000 B.C.

Because the site was not subsequently occupied, future excavations hold the promise of opening up a large horizontal area of the Chalcolithic village — providing a wealth of information for archaeologists, and perhaps a unique opportunity for tourists and residents in Jordan to visit the remains of a settlement in an area where agriculture has been a virtually uninterrupted way of life for the past 6000 years.

Though part of the site has been



General view of an excavation trench at Tell Abu Hamid (Photo by Carl Andrews, Yarmouk University)

recently bulldozed to prepare the earth for cultivation, the excavations nevertheless uncovered architectural remains and cultural artifacts from what appears to have been a sprawling farming village, typical of other such settlements in the Jordan Valley in the several centuries just before and after 4000 B.C. The ancient village itself occupied around 2-2.5 hectares of the six-hectare site.

The settlement houses were made of sun-dried mud-brick walls standing directly on virgin soil, without stone foundations. Some walls were also built of stone, and most of the houses seem to have been rectangular structures. The floors were of packed earth, without traces of plaster.

But plaster was used, as evidenced by pits whose sides and bottoms were covered with a yellow clay plaster. There is also some evidence for pit dwellings,

though this supposition will require more excavations to be fully verified. The site had many pits of varying sizes, used for storage, firing, or garbage disposal.

In one mud-brick-lined pit, the excavators found a large ceramic storage jar measuring about 1.5 metres high and one metre in diameter — large enough for a person to stand up inside it. The jar was carefully placed upright in a pit dug into virgin soil. It rested on a flat stone beneath it, and its top was covered with layers of carefully stacked mud-bricks.

The outside of the jar is decorated with nine rows of an impressed thumb imprint decorative motif, and there are two loop handles on the outside shoulder of the jar. More peculiar is a single ledge handle on the inside of the jar, about 30 centimetres from the bottom — thought to be a level marker for whatever material was stored in the jar.

The excavators have not yet

determined conclusively what these enormous jars were used for. One theory is that the residents of the settlement may have migrated away from the site for parts of the year, during which they stored some of their valuable foodstuffs or other goods inside the subterranean vessels.

Such large storage jars are known from other Chalcolithic settlements, notably Teleilat Ghassul in the southern end of the valley, but without the peculiar interior ledge handle of the Tell Abu Hamid jar. One of the Teleilat Ghassul jars can be seen at the Amman archaeological museum.

The inhabitants of the settlement also used baskets to store or carry goods, as we know from coiled basket imprints found on the bases of some of the pottery. The pottery from Tell Abu Hamid is distinctive late 5th Millennium B.C., red-painted ware, decorated with impressed hands and lunates or incised decorative patterns.



Excavating the remains on a packed earth floor of 6,000-year-old house at Tell Abu Hamid (Photo by Carl Andrews, Yarmouk University)

The blues — uniquely American, universally appealing

By Roger Gumley

MUDDY Waters, Bo Diddley, Sleepy John Estes, Koko Taylor, Roosevelt Sykes, Mighty Joe Young, Elmore James — all are creators of a uniquely American music — blues.

Developed out of a combination of chants, spirituals, work songs, and other influences, blues are an invention of American blacks, which began in the late 19th and early 20th centuries and is still very much alive today.

Many of the most popular American musicians of recent years have been avid blues fans. As a teen-ager, Bob Dylan used to stay up late at night to tune into faraway radio stations and hear Howlin' Wolf, Jimmy Reed, B.B. King, and other bluesmen. The Rolling Stones took their name from an early Muddy Waters song. Janis Joplin began her musical career imitating Bessie Smith (the "empress of the blues") in small Texas coffeehouses. And the king of rock and roll, Elvis Presley, made big hits out of material originally written and played by legendary blues musicians like Arthur (Big

Boy) Crudup and Willie Mae (Big Mama) Thornton.

Contrary to popular belief, blues music is not always sad. As the late Lee Jackson, a blues guitarist from Mississippi, once said, "It's not just a worrisome thing. There's happiness in (blues) too." Indeed, many blues are exciting and energetic — perfect dancing music. Because of this, blues have always been a major influence (some say the major influence) on rock and roll. Rock borrowed so much of its rhythm and lyrics from blues that one could argue that without blues, rock might never have been created. Today's popular music is still flavoured with bits and pieces of blues.

Blues are direct, immediate, and often lyrically blunt, speaking of life's joys and disappointments in a way that anyone can understand. Often the blues musician takes on the role of storyteller, relating a past event in a poetic, musical form. For example, John Lee Hooker's "House Rent Blues" tells of his troubles with his landlady after losing his job. B.B. King's "Lucille" tells the story of how he decided to name his guitar

Lucille.

Many blues songs have been written out of a need for emotional release after a moving experience. Viewed from this perspective, they are a poignant, beautiful art form — an earthy poetry with a universal appeal.

Blues music covers a myriad of human situations, but like most popular music tends to focus primarily on romantic situations and all of their complications. Like jazz, blues remains dominated by blacks, though people of all races can identify with the universal joys and sorrows of which it speaks.

Performers say they play blues because they feel the blues, and their music communicates these feelings.

"The blues to me are the true facts of life," says singer Koko Taylor, winner of a Grammy Award in 1984. "It's delivering a message. It's something that I feel from my heart, not just from the lips... To me, it's like a spirit."

There is an intangible, emotional element to blues that is essential to its successful performance. Without this sincere,

genuine quality, even the most technically competent performance would fall flat. Guitarist Lonnie Brooks, reflecting on 30 years as a musician, says, "When people hear somebody play blues from the heart, they will be touched by it. I always get more response when I play what I feel."

Blues have always been vocally oriented, with some instrumental styles that mimic the human voice. The guitar and the harmonica (sometimes called a "blues harp") are both peculiarly adaptable to such mimicry.

Probably the best known female blues singer is Bessie Smith. She produced many hits in the '20s and '30s, and was known to be a hypnotically fascinating stage performer.

Chicago became a major centre for blues music and remains its strongest base of support. Numerous clubs and nightspots there provide work for blues musicians, and the city holds blues festivals.

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American blues singer B.B. King is one of the famous popular musicians who perform the blues — a uniquely American, universally appealing style of music. Photo from Press & Publications Service.

World's longest running play celebrates third of a century

By Paul Majendie
Reuter

LONDON — The silence of a pitch black night is pierced by the eerie sound of someone whistling the nursery rhyme "Three Blind Mice." Suddenly a woman screams.

With that startling opening scene, Agatha Christie has riveted the attention of almost seven million theatre-goers over the last 33 years with "The Mousetrap," the world's longest-running play.

But the lights at London's St. Martin's Theatre are to be dimmed for one afternoon this month to allow the cast to join 1,000 celebrities for a champagne party to mark the evergreen whodunnit's run of one third of a century.

"Any excuse for a party," said Sir Peter Saunders, the producer who launched the play, which has joined Westminster Abbey and the Tower of London as a major tourist attraction.

"Americans predominate. It's the Germans and the Japanese after that. We have quite a few Australians too. It's booked solid from April to October," he told Reuters in an interview.

"I have had to cancel the matinee for March 25th. I thought the cast might not be up to it, what will all the champagne. But it will be on again that evening," he added.

The guests include Sir Richard Attenborough, star of the play when it opened in 1952 and best known as the Oscar-winning film director of "Gandhi."

Since then, 205 actors and actresses have played in "The Mousetrap," even forming an exclusive club with its own special tie and silver pendant.

Sir Peter said, "In the first few years it was quite hard to get actors to appear in it. There was something slightly shaming about its being in its fifth year or whatever. Now it's almost an emblem of honour which they can dine out on for years."

When will it ever end? Sir Peter said, "The play is like a snowball rolling down the slopes. It seems to be self-perpetuating. It is incomprehensible it has run so long but, having said that, I cannot see an end to it."

Agatha Christie, who gave the play as a ninth birthday present to her grandson, once said, "It is the sort of play you can take anyone to. It is not really frightening. It is not really horrible. It is not really a farce but it has a little bit of all these things and perhaps that satisfies a lot of people."

She died 10 years ago. Her most famous play has been translated into 23 languages and seen in 42 different countries.

Film rights for "The Mousetrap," originally written as a radio play at the request of the late Queen Mary to mark her 80th birthday, have been sold but it cannot be made until six months after the play has closed.

Every time there is a Mousetrap celebration, out come the statistics. This time, the management calculated that wardrobe mis-

tresses have ironed 56 miles of shirts while the usherettes have sold 277 tons of programmes and 750,000 orange drinks.

Only the leather armchair and a clock remain from the original props of the play which was once taken by the cast for a special performance staged at London's Wormwood Scrubs prison. Two

convicts escaped during the show.

One box office manageress, Adelaide Woodvine, confessed on retiring that she had never got round to seeing the play.

"It's just one of those things. You finish after the play has started and don't want to miss the beginning and when I had holidays I always liked to go away," she

said in a glossy souvenir brochure marking the third of a century.

Sir Peter said, "One of my proudest moments was when Sir Winston Churchill came to see the play. I asked him in the interval who he thought the killer was and he guessed right."

At the end of each performance, the killer steps forward

and, after the applause dies down, tells the audience "don't forget we are all partners in crime. Please keep the secret locked in your hearts."

Sir Peter said, "In general, people play the game wonderfully for us. Occasionally the odd journalist lets the secret out. But I am sure you won't."

Picture telephones become a commercial reality

By Catherine Arns
Reuter

BOSTON — Face-to-face telephone calls could soon become commonplace following the development by two small American companies of the first picture telephones that work over ordinary telephone lines.

American Telephone and Telegraph (ATT) made a big splash at the 1964 New York world's fair when it exhibited the first telephones that allowed callers to see each other on a television screen. But the high transmission costs of two-way television talk made commercial use far fetched at best.

But Pictel Corp of Peabody, Massachusetts, and Widcom Inc of Campbell, California, may have beaten the cost problem with only minor sacrifices in picture quality. Their aim now is to ignite the much-delayed video conferencing market.

Both firms have developed video telephones that squeeze a television signal through ordinary

telephone lines at a transmission cost of about \$50 an hour for a call across the United States linking east and west coasts.

The is about twice the cost of an ordinary phone call, but a fraction of the two-way television transmission price, which can run from some \$240 an hour via satellite to some \$600 to 1,000 an hour over dedicated cable lines.

In addition, a video conferencing room using standard television technology can cost anywhere from \$200,000 to \$1 million to set up while a picture phone can be placed on a desk and plugged in just like a regular telephone.

"We are to the original picture telephone what the wind-up telephones were to the beginning of the industry," said Ronald Posner, Pictel director and former president, at the formal unveiling of the company's videophone system recently.

At the demonstration of the Pictel phone, which uses a 12-inch colour screen, company co-

founder Brian Hinman spoke over the device from New Jersey to reporters at the company's Massachusetts headquarters.

Movements were delayed and fast motions were blurred but the sound and picture quality were similar to videotape.

Widcom's picture phone has been available for a year. It is similar to the Pictel product, although analysts said the system apparently is better at transmitting motion.

Pictel and Widcom are hoping to cash in on a video conferencing market that as yet barely exists, despite some heady early predictions that hundreds of companies, eager to save time and cut travel budgets, would rush to hold meetings by television rather than in person.

In fact, high cost and cumbersome technology, combined with many executives' reluctance to talk to a camera rather than to an audience, made for very limited demand.

But demand is expected to acc-

elerate with the advent of a new type of communications service known as Accunet Switched 56 which ATT is adding to its phone system. Accunet allows digital transmissions, including video images, to be sent over standard phone lines at 56,000 characters per second.

This enables anyone with the right equipment to send two-way colour video transmissions at only about twice the cost of a phone call.

Largely because of Accunet, the University of Wisconsin's Centre for Interactive Programmes is forecasting that sales of video conferencing equipment will expand from \$60 million last year to more than \$800 million by 1990.

The only problem with Accunet is that a video signal travels at speeds ranging from 768,000 to 1.5 million characters per second. The key to the picture telephone is a device called Codec (short for coder-decoder) which compresses the picture image to 56,000 characters

Randa Habib's

Listeners and viewers

SOME listeners to Radio Jordan's English programme were, until recently, upset that their favourite music on the FM radio used to be interrupted daily by the programme of Arabic for foreigners.

"Would you mind saying that again?" was broadcast for a long time from 10:45 to 11:00. The suggestion by listeners then was that such a programme should have been on the air on the A.M., and not the FM programme at the same time. Since there has been educational programmes on the AM from 11:00 to 13:00, why did we not include this 15-minute programme of Arabic within that period.

I would like to raise also another question that concerns, this time, JTV. Once or twice a week a movie is shown as a late show on Channel Two. Most of us wait for this movie with excitement. However, how come that only English-speaking films are shown on our TV?

Why not also feature good French, Italian or Spanish films? Subtitles could be bilingual (English and Arabic) to allow non-Arabic speaking people to enjoy the films too. Great French movies, Italian masterpieces of the seventh art and even in rare occasions, Japanese, Brazilian and Arabic films that have won international acclaim can be shown.

The idea of the "movie of the week" should be international and not limited to English and American films. This will have the advantage of showing good movies regardless of their language of origin.

Statement calls for Israeli pullout

(Continued from page 1)

of the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan.

During the visit, talks were held between His Excellency President Suharto and His Majesty King Hussein I.

Separate talks were also held between the two sides. The talks were held in a most cordial and brotherly atmosphere covering a wide range of matters of mutual concern.

The heads of state noted with satisfaction that the meeting had greatly contributed to the establishment of close personal relations between them and to the strengthening of brotherly relations and cooperation between their two countries.

The two leaders agreed on the necessity of an early peaceful settlement of the Iran-Iraq war for the benefit and best interest of the region and the Muslim World as a whole.

His Majesty expressed his appreciation for Indonesia's continued support for the Arab efforts to regain their territories occupied by Israel since the 1967 war. Both sides agreed that no peace could come to the region without the complete Israeli withdrawal from all Arab lands occupied by Israel including the Holy City of Jerusalem and the restoration of the legitimate rights of the Palestinian people.

The government of the Republic of Indonesia welcomed the decision of the government of the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan for the opening of a Jordanian embassy in Jakarta.

An agreement on trade and economic cooperation between the Republic of Indonesia and the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan

was concluded and signed during this visit. Both sides expressed their conviction that this agreement would be of great benefit to both countries and establish the framework for future cooperation. Both sides also agreed to conclude bilateral agreements in the areas of trade, industry, tourism, air and sea transport, agriculture, manpower and culture.

Both sides further agreed to encourage the exchange of visits between officials of both governments, businessmen and other groups at various levels with the aim of expanding trade and economic relations between them.

His Majesty King Hussein I of the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan expressed his deep appreciation to the president of the Republic of Indonesia and Mrs. Suharto and to the government and the people of Indonesia for the warm hospitality extended to him. Her Majesty Queen Noor Al Hussein and the accompanying delegation during his visit.

His Majesty King Hussein I extended an invitation to the president and Mrs. Suharto to visit Jordan. President Suharto was pleased to accept the invitation at a convenient date to be agreed upon later.

The Indonesian Antara News Agency reported on Sunday that the King had extended his visit to the Indonesian resort island of Bali by a day and is now scheduled to leave for Amman on Monday.

The agency said the King had failed to see Halley's Comet for two nights running because of cloud and rain. In good conditions, the comet is visible from Bali this week.

The King cancelled several engagements to visit a temple and handicraft centre.

Clark describes visit as fruitful

(Continued from page 1)

that prospect of Canada supplying arms to Jordan was not "foreseeable in the immediate future."

"I don't think it would be something I would encourage," he said.

In reply to a question on what was Canada's position on a new plan unveiled by Israeli Prime Minister Shimon Peres for evacuating most of the occupied West Bank and Gaza in gradual stages in return for peace, Mr. Clark said he had not had a chance to study the proposal. "I would rather have look at the proposal first," he said.

Mr. Clark is expected to visit Egypt and Israel during his current trip to the Middle East.

Mr. Clark said Crown Prince Hassan had accepted an invitation to visit Canada. The timing of the visit had not been fixed, he said.

Prior to his departure on Sunday, Mr. Clark held a brief meeting with Planning Minister Abdullah Nusour.

A senior Canadian official ac-

companying Mr. Clark told the Jordan Times that Jordan had requested a loan from Canada and Jordanian-Canadian talks during the foreign minister's visit covered the issue. No decision had been taken on the request, the official said. He did not reveal the amount that Jordan had requested from Canada but said the Kingdom was considered eligible for the loan.

The Jordanian News Agency, Petra, reported that Dr. Nusour told the Canadian minister that Jordan was interested in securing \$100 million in soft loan from Canada to help the Kingdom implement its 1986-1990 five-year development plan.

The planning minister also called for adjusting the trade imbalance between the two countries which is in favour of Canada. Canada's exports to the Kingdom reached JD 4.3 billion in 1984 while Jordan did not export anything to Canada.

Both ministries agreed to set up joint ventures and developing projects in training, technical and scientific fields, Petra said.

'U.S. committed to free oil flow'

(Continued from page 1)

accept U.N. Security Council Resolutions 242 and 338 before a dialogue can be started between Washington and the PLO.

The Saudi Gazette newspaper on Sunday urged Mr. Bush not to confuse traditional Arab hospitality with an endorsement of American policy in the Middle East.

In an editorial headlined "No voodoo politics, please," the English-language daily said it must be made clear to Mr. Bush that "for the U.S. to enforce that

(Israeli-U.S.) alliance and still keep the Arab countries in the saddle is an impossibility."

It said, however, that in Mr. Bush "we should find an intelligent man who is at least able to understand, a virtue that may be lacking had someone else been making the visit instead."

"We earnestly hope that Mr. Bush will not indulge in long dissertations on America's defence of democracy in the world, and its concern for human rights. America's innocence was lost a long time ago," the paper added.

Soviet silos are 'vulnerable'

(Continued from page 1)

American undersea arsenal. It urged the superpowers to negotiate limits on such warheads.

Deployment of sea-launched cruise missiles (SLCMs) — low-flying, radar-eluding drone aircraft — raised concerns because they were small and easy to conceal, making it difficult to verify compliance with an arms pact.

Soviet deployment of such a weapon would put the United States — with its long coast lines — at a great disadvantage, the report

said. Soviet submarines sailing close to U.S. shores could launch a devastating barrage.

The report urged the Reagan administration to reassess the SLCM programme.

One possible bright spot in the U.S. nuclear programme was the small, mobile "Midgetman" missile, now in the planning stages, according to the report.

It said the new missile, because of its size and mobility, might be difficult to destroy in a first strike.

Passarella bows out after helping to defeat Juventus

ROME (R) — Argentine Daniel Passarella gave his Fiorentina club — and Roma — a farewell present to remember Sunday with a goal which could cost Juventus their 22nd Italian league title.

Passarella was playing his last game for the Florence club before joining his national side for their World Cup preparations and when he returns to Italy next season it will be with Internazionale Milan.

But he will be remembered in Florence for heading the superb opening goal that helped Fiorentina to a 2-0 victory which was only the third defeat of the season for Juventus.

Juventus' chief rivals Roma collected full points with a 1-0 win over Sampdoria, thanks to a 73rd minute goal by international striker Francesco Graziani. They are

now only one point behind the Turinese with three games to play. Fiorentina, who had not beaten Juventus in Florence for six years, went ahead soon after the interval when Passarella powered home a free kick from Italian World Cup veteran Giancarlo Antognoni.

Winger Nicola Bertoni scored the second in injury time after Juventus had squandered a series of chances to get back on level terms. Antonio Cabrini, Michael Laudrup and Michel Platini were the main culprits.

Roma, without injured winger Bruno Conti, were forced to substitute top goalscorer Roberto

Pruzzo and Polish midfielder Zbigniew Boniek in the second half and then lost Brazilian Toninho Cerezo, sent off for a foul on Sampdoria defender Antonio Paganini after 71 minutes.

But the problems did nothing to dampen Roma's attacking mood and two minutes later Graziani scored after collecting a long pass from Sebastiano Nela.

At the opposite end of the table, Lecce obtained a return ticket to the second division when they were held to a 1-1 draw by Pisa. Italian under-21 player Paolo Baldieri opened the scoring for Pisa and Ferruccio Mariani added an own goal.

The 199th Milan Derby ended in a 1-0 victory for Internazionale over AC Milan with a 77th-minute goal by Giuseppe Min-audio.

IOC team examines Paris Olympic bid

PARIS (R) — A three-man International Olympic Committee (IOC) group has arrived in Paris to study the city's preparations for its bid to host the 1992 summer games.

The four-day visit will include a helicopter flight to view the planned Olympic sites, briefings on medical and security arrangements and meetings with new prime minister, Paris Mayor Jacques Chirac, and President Mitterrand.

Paris, one of the front-runners in the contest for the games to be decided by the IOC in Lausanne on Oct. 17, want the Olympics in 1992 to mark the centenary of a speech by Baron Pierre Coubertin which launched the modern Olympic movement.

Although Paris faces stiff competition from Barcelona, Birmingham (England), Brisbane, Belgrade and Amsterdam, a publicity brochure claims: "No other city in the world is better prepared than Paris to organise the Olympic Games in the humanitarian spirit of the Olympic movement of the ancient Greeks."

The promoters say Paris can cope with the thousands of visiting athletes, officials, tourists and spectators, and can offer first class hotel and transport facilities.

Paris boasts that all Olympic sites — apart from the yachting on the Mediterranean off Hyeres — are within easy reach.

The swimming pool is to be built near the Olympic Village, to be established on either side of the Seine, while the choice for the main athletics stadium is either Le Tremblay or the Bois De Vincennes, an option opposed by environmentalists worried about the destruction of trees.

They enjoy renowned international venues such as the Parc Des Princes for soccer and Roland Garros for tennis, while the Bercy indoor stadium, opened two years ago, would stage gymnastics.

The Paris summer application is running alongside another French campaign to bring the 1992 winter games to Albertville in the Savoy region of the Alps.

Brazil seeks convincing win against E. Germany

RIO DE JANEIRO (R) — Brazil need a convincing win over East Germany in Tuesday's World Cup warm-up to distract attention from problems which threaten to tear apart the side just seven weeks before the start of the Mexico finals.

The capricious Brazilian fans have probably never held their side in such low esteem after a disappointing tour of Europe and last week's match against Peru, the first of a series of home friendlies.

Despite winning 4-0, Brazil, who are favourites to win the World Cup for a record fourth time, looked sloppy against the young Peruvian side.

Socrates, Falcao and Oscar were pale imitations of the players who enchanted the soccer world four years ago in Spain.

Coach Tele Santana threatened

to reduce his press conferences from once a day to twice a week after some members of the media accused him of including Falcao and Socrates on grounds of personal friendship.

Santana's on-field problems have been exacerbated by indiscipline among senior members of his squad.

Last week wingers Eder and Sidney were expelled from the team for breaches of discipline — Eder was sent off against Peru for punching an opponent — while in February Renato and Leandro only narrowly escaped the same fate for returning to the team's hotel five hours after an evening curfew.

Santana's playing tactics also come under attack from centre-forward Walter Casagrande after the European tour which brought

defeats by Hungary and West Germany.

This ill-judged outburst led the manager to invite anyone unhappy with his playing formula to "pack up and leave." The next day Casagrande turned up at training without a murmur.

Reporters who cover the squad on a daily basis predict that more cases of indiscipline could come to light, adding that the decision to call up 29 players was Santana's big mistake.

There is great concern among the 25 players at camp. They feel sure that seven of them will not go to Mexico as they do not believe that any of the four Italian exiles — Cerezo, Junior, Edinho and Dirceu — will be dropped from the final 22," wrote Carlos Silva in "O Globo".

Santana said he would not announce the 22-man squad until just before the team depart for Mexico in May.

For Tuesday's match Santana is expected to include Edvaldo, who was called up to replace the disgraced Eder.

Leandro, who has recovered from an ankle injury, will probably be included at right-back while goalkeeper Gilmar, fullback

Julio Cesar and midfielder Alemao will also be given a game — the last two replacing Oscar and Socrates.

Santana at last received some good news when he learned star striker Zico, who is almost recovered from a knee injury, could restart training within the next 10 days.

Zico's return could spark a revival which would go some way towards appeasing fans who will accept nothing less than the World Cup itself when the team returns from Mexico.

The supporters were alarmed by reports that players were unhappy with an offer of \$50,000 each but only if they won the cup.

The squad has demanded a bonus for reaching each successive stage of the competition which would guarantee the players a big payout even if Brazil failed to lift the trophy.

Lack of organisation and increasing politicisation of the Brazilian Football Association (CBF) has also affected players' morale, moving FIFA President Joao Havelange, CBF President when Brazil last won the cup, to say he feared Brazil's participation in Mexico could be a fiasco.

Iraq edges Oman in Gulf Cup thriller

BAHRAIN (R) — Iraq Sunday pipped Oman 3-2 with a last minute goal by Rahim Hamid, who scored a hat-trick, in their last match of the seven-nation Gulf Cup.

Iraq put on a good show despite criticism of their previous performances and the sacking, announced in Baghdad Sunday, of their Brazilian coach Zamario.

Iraq fielded a second-string team for this event while the star squad prepare for the World Cup in Mexico.

Iraq's Hamid opened the score

in the 25th minute from the penalty area and Oman's Hilal Hamid equalised in the 36th minute. Oman went ahead in the last minute of the first half with a goal from Saeed Faraj.

In the second half, the Iraqis kept up the pressure. Hamid made it 3-2 in the 67th minute and scored again when Omani goalkeeper Suliman Khalif ended a poor day by mishandling a simple save.

Oman remain at the bottom of the table after losing all but one match, which they drew with hosts Bahrain — who still have a slim

chance of finishing as runners-up to Kuwait, already assured of victory in the competition with 10 points from five matches.

On Monday, to conclude the 17-day tournament, Bahrain play Kuwait and Qatar clash with the United Arab Emirates.

The Iraqi Football Association (IFA) has sacked Brazilian coach Zamario, blaming him for the poor performance of Iraq's second-string team in the seven-nation Gulf Cup tournament underway in Bahrain.

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Police chief vows revenge after Punjab court killings

CHANDIGARH, India (R) — Punjab's police chief vowed Sunday to take revenge for the Sikh extremist killing of six of his men during a courthouse raid which freed three militants from a courthouse.

Police Chief Julio Ribeiro, one of India's toughest policemen who was appointed to the Punjab post only last week, told reporters at the scene of Saturday's shoot-out in the industrial town of Jullundur: "The police will strike back."

Police combed the district around Jullundur in search of about 12 men who escaped in jeeps after shooting the policemen and freeing colleagues on trial for the murder of local Hindu newspaper editor Ramesh Chander in May 1984.

Lawyers hid under tables and bystanders fled in panic as the extremists sprayed about 50 rounds of machine gun fire at police escorting the three militants to a toilet outside the courthouse. Four people including a lawyer were injured.

The extremists then fired in the air to scatter pedestrians before driving off after a 20-minute operation which Indian newspapers described as one of the most daring Sikh attacks.

The raid shattered a brief lull in violence in Punjab which last month claimed 105 lives. It put

police on alert for the state's annual harvest festival which begins on April 13 and could spark fresh violence between Hindus and Sikhs.

Chief Minister Surjit Singh Bamala called the attack a "ghastly and dastardly crime" and urged Ribeiro to use every available resource to track down the extremists.

The authorities had claimed they were making headway against extremists campaigning for a separate Sikh nation in Punjab. About 8,000 paramilitary police swept through rural areas Saturday making door-to-door searches in the state's biggest ever manhunt.

The attack coincided with a bomb scare on an Air India flight from London to Delhi. The plane returned to Heathrow Airport after a telephone call saying a bomb had been planted on board. No bomb was found.

Sikh extremists are believed to have planted a bomb on an Air India flight from Canada to India last June which crashed into the Atlantic off Ireland killing all 329 people on board.

The Times of India newspaper said the gang responsible for the Jullundur attack included an extremist who escaped from police custody last Thursday in the western city of Ahmedabad.

Delhi police said they feared the gang might now switch their focus from Punjab to the Indian capital and warned people to beware of suspicious objects.

More than 80 people were killed in a wave of Sikh extremist bomb attacks in Delhi last May.

The Indian Express newspaper said Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi's government was considering introducing an all-party state government in Punjab in a bid to restore order which would stop just short of restoring direct rule from New Delhi.

Punjab was ruled from Delhi for two years up to the state elections last September which brought the Bamala and his moderate Sikh Akali Dal party to power.

Criticised by Mr. Gandhi's Congress (I) Party for not taking a tough enough line with extremists, Mr. Bamala has also come under fire from militant Hindu groups who accuse him of failing to protect Punjab's Hindu minority.

"(The attack) has proved beyond doubt that the Punjab police is most incompetent," the militant Hindu Shiv Sena group said in a statement after the Jullundur raid.

6 more die in South African protest violence

JOHANNESBURG (R) — Six people died in black protest violence in South African townships overnight, police said Sunday.

The bodies of three people who had been burned to death were found at Motherwell, in the troubled eastern Cape. A man's body was found beside a gutted car but the other two were so badly charred that police said they did not immediately know what sex they were.

Three more people died at the other major trouble spot, Kenema, in rural western Transvaal. A man died in a clash with police and the bodies of two other men were found later.

It was not clear whether the two had been killed by police or in violence between blacks that has become a marked feature of the two years of anti-government protests in South Africa.

Radicals have attacked black people whom they accuse of collaborating with the police and with the white-dominated government. Some blacks have begun to attack supporters of groups fighting apartheid racial discrimination.

Protest violence, at first confined to urban areas, has spread in recent months to townships around small, rural and deeply conservative white towns in places such as the western Transvaal.

Police reported arson attacks on a black policeman's home near Johannesburg and on electricity plants in an area zoned for people classified as coloured or mixed-race at George, in the southern Cape. President P.W. Botha's parliamentary seat.

Crowds tensed buses and security force patrols in other townships, police said. They reported 29 arrests Saturday night.

Police said that youths surrounding a foreign television crew in the eastern Cape's Zwijew township threw a petrol bomb at police as they approached the group.

The government says the presence of foreign television crews encourages youths to protest and police frequently order journalists out of townships.

South Africa's Foreign Correspondents' Association has denied that the presence of journalists affects the level of violence in the townships, where more than 1,400 people have died in 26 months of unrest.

Mandela urges more action

Black nationalist leader Winnie Mandela has called on black South Africans to abandon talk and to step up their battle against apartheid racial discrimination through action.

She urged a cheering crowd in this impoverished township Saturday to be disciplined and await orders from her jailed husband Nelson Mandela's African National Congress (ANC).

The government banished Winnie Mandela from 1977 until last year to Phatshabale, its residents' name (it means "handle with care") for the black area outside the white town of Brandfontein in the heart of the right-wing Orange Free State.

Mrs. Mandela defied apartheid conventions in Brandfontein throughout her time there. Eyewitnesses said that she told the people amongst whom she had lived.

"When we call upon you to go over to that lily-white Brandfontein and take over your wealth — that is your wealth — all that is not going to be achieved through speeches."

The newspaper said police discovered a series of memos written on water-soluble paper when they arrested Toshiaki Hashimoto, 42, a leading member of the Chukaku-Ha, last month on charges of attempted murder.

The memos indicated that the Chukaku-Ha had scouted out downtown buildings for a suitable location from which to launch the rockets and had bought parts for weapons at various locations to make it difficult for police to trace them, the paper said.

Police are investigating all people who have quit work or worked part time over the past year for companies that have offices in downtown buildings, it added.

The Chukaku-Ha claimed responsibility for a rocket attack on the Osaka Prefecture (state) Police Headquarters last month. That attack came a few days after simultaneous missile attacks in Tokyo on the imperial palace and the U.S. embassy, for which the Senki Kyosando (battle flag faction) claimed responsibility.

For a third assault last Monday, when four homemade mortars were fired at the state guesthouse in Tokyo where the summit will be held, the Kakurokyo (Revolutionary Workers' League) claimed responsibility. One policeman inspecting the truck from which the mortars were launched suffered burns, but no other injuries or damage have been reported in the attacks.

W. Berlin police hunt for bombers

WEST BERLIN (R) — West Berlin Police backed by U.S. security forces were hunting guerrillas Sunday who bombed a city discotheque killing two people and injuring 204.

Police said the number of injured, set at 155 late Saturday, rose during the night as more people caught in the blast at the crowded La Belle nightclub reported to hospitals for treatment.

Police said strict controls would be maintained at checkpoints between West Berlin and surrounding East German territory but there was no immediate news of any breakthrough in the investigations.

One of the dead was a black U.S. soldier — one of more than 50 American servicemen hit by the blast. The other was a 28-year-old Turkish woman.

Some 6,000 U.S. soldiers are stationed here.

Dieter Piete, head of a special police unit set up to investigate the bombing, told journalists there were no clear clues yet to the guerrillas' identity. "The evidence we have found indicates it was a professional operation," he added.

Bonn politicians denounced the discotheque attack. U.S. Amb-

assador Richard Burt spoke of an "act of unbelievable cruelty" and urged a sustained campaign against what he called "state-sponsored terrorism."

One of three groups claiming responsibility for the blast, triggered by a bomb placed near the discotheque dance floor, called itself the "Anti-American Arab Liberation Front."

Two other calls were received by news agencies linking the attack to the "Holger Meins Commando" and the "Red Army Faction" — both extremist groups.

A police spokesman said West Berlin police alongside U.S. military authorities, who still retain overall control of security matters under post-World War II agreements, would continue strict controls of traffic leaving the city and entering from surrounding Communist territory.

No house searches were planned at the moment. But security checks had been stepped up in the city since Libyan leader Muammar Qadhafi pledged revenge against Washington over the clash between U.S. and Libyan forces off the Libyan coast last month. In Santa Barbara, California,

President Reagan Saturday expressed deep concern about the blast in the West Berlin discotheque.

White House spokesman Larry Speakes said Mr. Reagan, vacationing at his mountaintop ranch, instructed his senior officials "to stay on top of this and report to him."

A senior administration official, who asked not to be identified, said U.S. policymakers and officials involved in the drive against terrorism were meeting in Washington.

He declined to specify the officials or to say what they were discussing. "It is an assessment meeting," the official told reporters.

Mr. Speakes said, "the president is deeply concerned about the increasing number of terrorist incidents affecting Americans in Europe and worldwide."

"The president believes this is a worldwide problem and every nation has a stake in it."

Mr. Reagan extended condolences to the families of those killed in West Berlin and in a bomb attack earlier this week on a TWA airliner.

U.S. probes S. Korea fuel tank blast

SEOUL, South Korea (Agencies) — U.S. military investigators said Sunday they had not determined the cause of a thunderous explosion of a jet fuel tank Saturday that killed 15 people and injured 12 at the Osan Air Base south of Seoul.

The death toll rose to 15 when a Korean severely burned in the explosion died Sunday morning at Kyonggi hospital near the American base, a hospital spokesman said.

U.S. military spokesman Billy Fullerton said a board of inquiry had been appointed to investigate the explosion. He said a preliminary investigation indicated the blast was an accident and said there was no suggestion of sabotage or terrorism.

He said in the latest official report did not identify the dead by nationality, but that all were believed to have been Korean workers.

The Yonhap News Agency claimed the dead were all Koreans and included eight women. Fullerton said the injured, all Koreans, were taken to off-base hospitals.

Fullerton said the explosion and fire caused no damage to other base facilities. Although flight operations, including red-

employment of troops who took part in "Team Spirit '86" manoeuvres, were delayed briefly Saturday. He said the operations were back to normal at the main American air base in Korea.

Fullerton said the explosion and fire occurred at 1:14 p.m. (0414 GMT) Saturday while a 40,000-barrel tank was being refilled with jet fuel. He said the tank was three-quarters full at the time of the filling.

He said chemical foam was used to fight the fire which was completely out by early Sunday but that the explosion site, which had yet to cool down, was still dangerous.

Yonhap said more than 80 fire engines were mobilised to fight the fire. Some of them reportedly were rushed from other nearby military units.

Fullerton said there were Korean civilian contract workers who were filling the tank and a Korean ground maintenance crew in the area when the blast ripped through the tank.

He did not say altogether how many there were. Yonhap said a total of 31 Korean workers were there and some of them, who were very close to the tank, were killed instantly. The 31 included a number of Korean workers placing

new turf around the tank.

Kim Chong-Soon, a 47-year-old woman turf worker who was taken to a hospital for back injuries, said, "something went off suddenly with a big bang, sending fragments and stones flying into the sky ... and flames."

Fullerton said an initial air force report from Washington that listed one American dead was premature.

Meanwhile in Taegu, South Korea, Police fired tear gas and anti-riot "pepper fog" to prevent more than 1,500 anti-government demonstrators, mostly students, from taking over Taegu City Hall Saturday night.

About 140 people were arrested, police sources said. Witnesses said police dragged, kicked and punched those being detained.

The protest followed a major opposition rally organised by the New Korea Democratic Party (NKDP) as part of a campaign aimed at forcing President Chun Doo Hwan into allowing direct presidential elections next year.

Police estimated the crowd at the rally in the south east city at 3,000 but organisers claimed that up to 20,000 people were present. Similar rallies were held in Kwangju and Pusan last month.

5 reportedly die in Peruvian quake

CUZCO, Peru (R) — At least five people were killed and 30 injured when an earthquake rocked the southern Peruvian city of Cuzco, the Peruvian News Agency Andina said.

It listed the dead as a mother and her baby, an eight-year-old girl and a soldier and his sister. Civil defence official earlier said three people were killed and 40 injured.

The tremor, on Saturday, reg-

istering 5.8 on the open-ended Richter scale, brought down buildings in poor districts of the Andean city and civil defence officials said many people had been made homeless.

The civil defence board called for tents to house the homeless, some of whom gathered in the main square with blankets to spend the night, witnesses said.

The quake at 3:15 p.m. (2015 GMT) caused widespread panic, toppling stone crosses from

the 17th century cathedral as well as cracking walls and breaking windows in the centre of the city. Andina said the quake, followed after 11 minutes by a less powerful aftershock, was centred about 25 kilometres north east of the city, Peru's leading tourist centre.

There was no immediate word on whether any damage was caused to mines or the Inca remains at Machu Picchu about 90 kilometres north west of Cuzco.

Peru to seek \$20m over infant deaths

LIMA (R) — Peru will seek \$20 million in damages from the U.S. government after four infants died from taking medicine supplied under a U.S. aid programme, a senior government official has said.

Miguel Ramirez, an aide to Health Minister David Tejada, told Reuters the children died in a Lima State Hospital last week after taking oral rehydration salts (ORS), used in the treatment of diarrhoea.

Dr. Ramirez said the salts given to the children contained more than 10 times the normal level of potassium. The government would recall about 1.5 million packages of ORS supplied by the U.S. Agency for International Development (AID), he added.

Dr. Ramirez said the government would seek the damages from AID but could not say if the action would be initiated in Peruvian courts or in Washington. In Washington, Deputy AID

Administrator Jay Morris issued a statement saying the agency deeply regretted the deaths and had offered the Peruvian government full cooperation.

He said oral rehydration was a proven treatment that had saved the lives of millions of children around the world. The salts had been in use for more than 20 years and had been endorsed by several health groups, including UNICEF and the Pan American Health Organisation.

Kabul: Stingers could threaten Afghan peace deal

ISLAMABAD (R) — Afghanistan said Sunday that chances for peace there could be threatened if the United States supplied advanced anti-aircraft missiles to Afghan rebels.

Bakhtar News Agency said the missiles would be "aimed not only at the Afghan sky" and would "play into the hands of those who are striving to erect additional road blocks in the way of a political settlement."

Congressional and private sources said in Washington this week that the Reagan administration, in a major policy shift, had decided to send shoulder-fired Stinger missiles to the anti-Communist guerrillas.

Afghanistan, which last month handed a draft timetable for a Soviet troop withdrawal to a United Nations mediator, is due to resume U.N.-sponsored peace talks with Pakistan in Geneva on May 5.

Bakhtar said the most important of four points in the peace proposal was an end to armed interference from outside, a reference to Pakistan-based rebels who receive arms and aid from the United States, China, Saudi Arabia and Pakistan.

Islamabad considers the withdrawal of an estimated 115,000

Soviet troops the key point in the four-year talks.

The other two issues are the return of about 4.5 million refugees from Iran and Pakistan and international guarantees for the peace deal.

The guerrillas say the Stingers, heat-seeking ground-to-air missiles, are the best defence against Soviet and Afghan Mi-24 helicopter gunships and jets.

Bakhtar accused Washington of encouraging international terrorism by supplying the missiles to the rebels.

"Who can guarantee that Stinger rockets supplied by the CIA would not finally find their way to terrorist organisations operating in other countries?" it asked.

Meanwhile, Soviet and Afghan government forces have mounted a big attack on one of the best fortified guerrilla bases in Afghanistan after overrunning another, guerrilla sources said.

They said the guerrillas destroyed five helicopters while fighting off the attack on the Zhawar base of man-made caverns in the eastern province of Pakia.

The attack on Zhawar, 10 kilometres from the Pakistan border, began on Friday night — the latest in a Communist spring offensive in the border areas of Pakia to block

guerrilla supply lines.

The sources said the Communist forces earlier overran a rebel base in the Sarkani district of the north eastern province of Kunar suffering heavy casualties in fighting from March 28 to 31.

The base is in the Kher area of Sarkani, about six kilometres from the Pakistan border.

The guerrilla sources said at least 30 helicopters landed commandos in the hilly areas around Zhawar before planes began bombing the base which is defended by about 200 guerrillas.

They quoted a captured Afghan army lieutenant as saying 1,200 Afghan troops were involved in the operation, but had no figures for the Soviet troops.

The sources said guerrilla reinforcements had been sent to the Zhawar base, which includes bomb shelters for tanks, a subterranean hospital and weapons repair and training facilities.

The base has withstood several attacks in the past, the last in August and September when Soviet troops came within five kilometres, of it.

The Soviet Union has an estimated 115,000 troops to help the government of President Babrak

Karmal fight the guerrillas who Kabul says are helped by the United States, Pakistan, China, Iran and some Arab states.

In Karachi, British Foreign Secretary Sir Geoffrey Howe said Saturday the solution to the Afghanistan problem was simple — Soviet troops should withdraw.

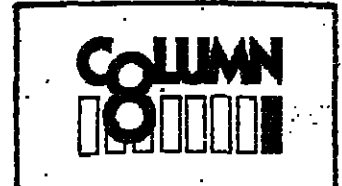
"We reject the use of force, particularly military invasion," said Sir Geoffrey in a speech on British foreign policy at the privately-run Pakistan Institute of International Affairs.

"What is the solution for Afghanistan?" asked Sir Geoffrey adding: "Simple. The Soviet troops should withdraw and the Afghan people should themselves decide their own future."

He said millions of Afghan refugees could then return home safely and with honour.

Sir Geoffrey said a huge refugee problem had been created by the 1979 Soviet military intervention in Afghanistan. No less than one-fifth of the whole Afghan population had been driven out of its own land, he said, referring to an estimated 4.5 million Afghan refugees in Pakistan and Iran.

Sir Geoffrey spoke before leaving for London at the end of a week-long tour of India and Pakistan.



Millionaire loses jewels

SOUTHPORT, England (R) — It was a bad weekend for Canadian millionaire Edgar Bronfman. He threw a glittering party to celebrate Britain's biggest horse race, the Grand National. Red Rum, the horse that has won the race three times, stood in the foyer. But while more than 100 guests admired Red Rum and sipped champagne in Southport's Prince of Wales Hotel on Friday night, thieves ransacked the bedrooms. They took jewellery worth £500,000 (\$725,000). Cans worth £250,000 sterling (\$365,000) were stolen from Bronfman's British wife, Georgiana Webb. Her engagement ring was among the loot. "It was of great sentimental value," said Bronfman, chairman of the Seagram Drinks Company. "It is very disappointing." The thieves missed the room of Anita Rothschild, a member of the rich banking family. In yesterday's race, sponsored by Seagram and with a first prize of more than £57,000 (about \$83,000), Bronfman had a runner in it, Drumalargan. It fell at the 15th fence.

Legendary bull fighter returns to ring

MADRID (R) — Manuel Benitez "El Cordobes" returned to the ring in a benefit fight for the victims of last year's Colombian volcano disaster and had his trousers ripped by the bull before he killed it with a single stroke of the sword. He appeared at Madrid's Las Ventas ring before a capacity crowd of 32,000 which included King Juan Carlos and pop singer Julio Iglesias. El Cordobes, who earned millions of dollars before he first retired in 1972, told reporters he did not intend to make a second comeback after an unsuccessful attempt between 1979 and 1981. "Bullfighters only come back when they're hard up for money," he said. "I am 50 years old, rich and have five children. Why would I do it now?" he said.

Paper seeks to change Marcos' bust to Aquino

MANILA, Philippines (AP) — A Manila newspaper on Sunday endorsed a suggestion to change a hilltop stone image of deposed President Ferdinand Marcos to the face of his assassinated rival, Benigno Aquino. Sculptor Abdulmalik A. Imao has proposed that the bust be recast into an Aquino monument. The Manila Times said in an editorial. "The change will have historical significance by symbolising the transition from dictatorship to 'people's power.' It will also be the only monument in the world where a political personality obliterates another." Aquino, a former senator, was assassinated in 1983 on his return from exile in the United States.

Disasters killed nearly 2,500 in China

PEKING (AP) — Some of China's worst flooding in decades and other natural disasters claimed nearly 2,500 lives last year, the China Daily reported Saturday. Typhoons, flooding, droughts, sleet and snowstorms destroyed 2 million homes and damaged 40 million hectares (98 million acres) of farmland, the Official English-language newspaper said. More than 100 million civilians and soldiers were mobilised to shore up dikes and conduct rescue and relief operations. The state provided 1.3 billion yuan (\$406 million) in relief aid, the paper said.

Police to cut number of armed officers

LONDON (R) — The number of London policemen authorised to carry guns is to be cut by about 750 after an inquiry into the accidental shooting of a civilian by a policeman, a police spokesman said. An inquiry into a 1983 shooting in which an innocent bystander was wounded in a London street had recommended tougher selection procedures and more stringent training of officers carrying firearms. As a result, he said, the number of armed policemen in the 27,000-member force was being cut from 14 per cent to 11 per cent, training courses would be extended from one week to two and officers taking part would be assessed for their decision-making capability as well as technical proficiency.

Hawke launches \$70m assault on drug abuse

SYDNEY (R) — Prime Minister Bob Hawke, whose own daughter was a heroin addict, Sunday announced a 100 million dollar (\$70 million) offensive against drug abuse.

Mr. Hawke outlined his Labour government's three-year campaign on prime time television 18 months after he wept during a televised press conference on crime because of his family's own drugs problem.

His daughter Rosslyn, and her husband, Matt, who have two small children, have both undergone rehabilitation treatment. The government will tackle what it says is the country's most alarming problem on three fronts — education, law enforcement and rehabilitation, Mr. Hawke said.

A colour booklet on drug abuse will be delivered this week to every home in Australia, which has 15 million people, in conjunction with a massive advertising campaign. A national drug information toll-free telephone line will be set up and a "drug offensive" kit distributed. At least two state governments

have already announced plans for new laws that would treat serious drug traffickers like murderers with life sentences for major offenders.

Mr. Hawke, who organised the country's first so-called national drugs summit a year ago, also said links had been established with drug enforcement agencies overseas especially in South East Asia.

Extradition agreements were being updated with 30 countries and customs security and surveillance were being improved, he added.

Australia has increasingly become used as a transit point for heroin from the notorious "Golden Triangle" in South East Asia and this had led to a serious increase in domestic heroin, according to police drug squad chiefs.

In 1984 more than 20,000 Australians died as a result of drug abuse, according to official figures.

Thirty-two per cent of all deaths of young Australians aged between 15 and 25 are the result of involvement with drugs, both legal and illegal.

GOREN BRIDGE

BY CHARLES GOREN AND OMAR SHARIF
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WINNER ON LOSER PLAY

Both vulnerable. West deals.

NORTH				EAST			
♠ A J 4 2		♠ 8 4		♠ K 7 5		♠ 10 9	
♥ 8 4		♥ 3 7		♥ K Q J 10 9 7		♥ 6 5 3 2	
♦ A K 9 6 3		♦ 8 4		♦ A Q		♦ 5 4 2	
SOUTH				WEST			
♠ Q 8 6 3		♠ A		♠ 8 4		♠ Q J 10 2	
♥ A		♥ K 10 9 8 6 3		♥ 8 4		♥ 5 4 2	
♦ 7 5		♦ 8 4		♦ 8 4		♦ 5 4 2	

The bidding: West 1♣, North 1♦, East 1♥, South 1♠. West 2♠, North 2♥, East 2♦, South 2♣. West 3♠, North 3♥, East 3♦, South 3♣. West 4♠, North 4♥, East 4♦, South 4♣. Opening lead: King of ♣.

In this column we have often written about loser-on-loser plays. The reverse case, where declarer discards a card that is not a loser, is rare indeed. Consider this hand. We are not sure we agree with North's decision to double one heart, for a response of two diamonds would have been awkward. However, the alternative of a two club overall is equally unattractive, and who are we to quibble with success.